

Hardesty's EARLY WEST VIRGINIA

EDITOR'S NOTE

Every Hardesty's was prefaced with an "Early West Virginia" chapter, an accounting of the struggle of the settlers against the Indians. That account was the same in each book. This series of Hardesty's reprints will carry that account but once, and that in this volume as follows.

When Virginia first became known to the whites, it was occupied by many different tribes of Indians, attached to different nations. That portion lying northwest of the Blue Ridge, and extending to the Great Lakes, was possessed by the Massawomees, who were a powerful confederacy, rarely in friendship with the tribes east of those mountains. Little of their history is known; some suppose them to have been the ancestors of the Six Nations, but they more probably became incorporated with them.

This tribe gradually retired, as settlements extended westward from the sea, and when the white population reached the Blue Ridge mountains, the country between it and the Alleghenies was entirely uninhabited; the beautiful Valley of Virginia was then only used as a hunting ground, and as a highway for belligerent parties of Indians, in their expeditions against each other. In consequence of the continued hostilities between the northern and southern Indians, these expeditions were frequent, and tended to retard the settlement of the valley. There were small Indian villages interspersed West Virginia, the most of whose

inhabitants crossed to the northwest between the Alleghenies and the Ohio river, within the present limits of side of the river, as the white settlements advanced.

North of the present boundary of Virginia, and particularly near the junction of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, the Indians were more numerous, and their villages larger. The principal of these tribes were the Delawares, Mingoes and Shawnees, the greater part of whom moved westward when the French were forced to abandon their position at the forks of the Ohio river, in 1765. When improvements were commenced by the white's, therefore, in western Virginia, the country was almost entirely uninhabited, excepting by the wild beasts of the forest, and frequent straggling bands of Indians hunters, who wreaked their vengeance upon the whites whenever opportunity offered. In the country northwest of the Ohio, however, there were many warlike tribes who were exceedingly hostile to the colonists; and in the vicinity of the southwestern portion of the State were the Cherokees (who occupied the western part of North Carolina), the Chickasaws and the Catawbias.

FIRST WHITE SETTLERS ON THE MONONGAHELA, ITS BRANCHES, AND IN THE NORTHWEST.

Probably the first white men who built cabins in Virginia west of the Allegheny mountains were David Tygart and Mr. Files, who came in 1754, the latter settling at the mouth of the creek which now bears his name (where the town of Beverly stands); and the former, a few miles farther up the river (since called Tygarts Valley river), in what is known as Tygarts valley. The only Indians in this vicinity at that time were hunting and war parties from the north and west, whose hostility (and the difficulty in obtaining breadstuff for their families) soon determined these men to abandon their settlements. Before they could carry out their determination, however, the family of Files became victims to savage cruelty. A strolling band massacred them all excepting a boy, who, making his escape, hastened to the Tygarts and warned them in time, so that they saved themselves by flight.

Soon after this, a settlement was made on Cheat river, a few miles east of where Morgantown now stands, by a party of Dunkards, comprising

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Soon after this, a settlement was made on Cheat river, a few miles east of where Morgantown now stands, by a party of Dunkards, comprising Dr. Thomas Eckarly and his two brothers. They first encamped at the mouth of Dunkards creek, which owes its name to this circumstance, and finally located on Dunkards bottom, on Cheat river. Although a bloody Indian war was then waging, they remained unmolested for several years, when the doctor went to visit a trading post upon the Shenandoah river and obtain supplies. Upon his return, he found the ashes of his cabin and the mutilated bodies of his brothers.

In the fall of 1758, Thomas Decker and others commenced a settlement on the Monongahela, at the mouth of the creek which has since borne his name, but they were driven out in the spring by a war party of Delawares and Mingoes, and many of them murdered. Owing to the continued hostilities, no further effort was made to establish a settlement upon the Monongahela or

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them, and an increase in population
and an extension of settlements was
the consequence.

It was during this period that
several establishments were made on
the Monongahela and its branches.
These were nearly contemporaneous,
but the first in order was that made
on the Buckhannon, a fork of Tygarts
Valley river. It was during the year
1764 that John Simpson, a trapper,
had his camp at the head of the
Youghogany river, and in his employ
were John and Samuel Pringle - two
soldiers, who had deserted from Fort
Pitt. These glades having begun to be
a common hunting ground, Simpson
and his party determined upon
moving farther west, where they
might be free from the incursions of
other hunters. After having crossed
Cheat river at the Horse Shoe, and
while journeying through the
wilderness, a quarrel arose between
Simpson and one of the Pringles, and
they separated, the Pringles keeping
up the Valley river until they reached
the Buckhannon, which they ascended
several miles, and at the mouth of
Turkey run took up their abode in
the cavity of a large sycamore tree.
Here they remained together,
subsisting upon game, until 1767,
when John left his brother for the
purpose of going to a trading post on
the Shenandoah to secure ammunition

and other supplies. Samuel suffered considerably during his brother's absence, who, however, returned in the course of several weeks, bringing the news of the treaty of peace with the French and Indians. Now, no longer fearing arrest for desertion, and becoming tired of their seclusion, they determined to leave it, not, however, without feelings of regret, and they expected to return as soon as possible, if they could induce others to accompany them to that desirable section.

In the fall of the ensuing year, therefore (1768), Samuel Pringle returned, accompanied by several others, who, being pleased with the appearance of the country, removed there the following spring, locating permanently upon lands selected by them, which they proceeded to cultivate. John Jackson (who was accompanied by his sons, George and Edward) settled at the mouth of Turkey run; John Hacker, farther up on the Buckhannon river, where "Bushes fort" was soon afterward established; Alexander and Thomas Sleeth, near to the Jacksons, on what was afterward known as the "Forenash Plantation." It was at the house of George Jackson that the first county court of Harrison was held, in 1784. William Hacker, Thomas and

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John Simpson, after parting with the Pringle brothers, crossed over the Valley river, near the mouth of Pleasant creek, and passing on to the head of another water course, gave it the name of Simpsons creek. Thence he went westwardly until he came upon a stream which he named Elk creek, at the mouth of which he erected a camp, where he continued to reside for twelve months, during

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which time he saw nothing of his former companions, or any human face. At the end of a year, he proceeded to a settlement on the South Branch, where he disposed of a large stock of furs and skins, and returned again to his camp at the mouth of the Elk, remaining until a number of cabins had been erected near the creek, on what is now Main street, in the city of Clarksburg.

After the first arrival, other emigrants soon came, under the guidance of Samuel Pringle, from the South Fork settlements, among whom were John Cutright, who settled on Buckhannon; Henry Rule, who improved a traet just above the mouth of Finks run, and John and William Radeliff, who both settled on Haeker's creek — the latter on the place afterward owned by William Powers. John Haeker settled on the creek which took his name.

In 1768, Jacob Vanmeter, John Swan, Thomas Hughes and others, settled on the west side of the Monongahela, near the mouth of Muddy creek. The same year, the place which had been occupied for a time by Thomas Decker and his unfortunate associates (where Morgantown is now situated) was settled by a party of emigrants, one

(1768). Samuel, accompanied by several others, being pleased with the fertility of the country, removed the following spring, locating upon lands selected by which they proceeded to John Jackson (who was followed by his sons, George and Daniel) at the mouth of the John Hacker, farther up the Buckhannon river, where "the place" was soon afterward purchased by Alexander and Thomas of the Jacksons, on what is now well known as the "Jackson station." It was at the place that Jackson that the first settlement was held, in 1768, by John Hacker, Thomas and John and William Brown employed exclusively in hunting, making improvements for their own benefit; they considered a valuable adjunct to the river, in supplying the settlers with meat, and afterward they turned them against the Indians. Their skill in woodcraft obtained afterward for their services invaluable. In 1768, one of their sons, covering the West with its name.

After parting with his sons, he crossed over the river at the mouth of the John Hacker, passing on to the South branch, where, after a short course, gave it the name of Elk creek. Thence he proceeded until he came to the mouth of the Elk creek, which he named Elk creek. Thence he proceeded until he came to the mouth of the Elk creek, which he named Elk creek. Thence he proceeded until he came to the mouth of the Elk creek, which he named Elk creek.

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In 1769, Col. Ebenezer Zane, his brothers Silas and Jonathan, with some others from the South branch, visited the Ohio river for the purpose of commencing improvements, and to select positions for their future residence. Col. Zane chose for his residence a place above the mouth of Wheeling creek, near the Ohio, and opposite a beautiful island; this spot is now in the midst of the flourishing city of Wheeling. Silas Zane commenced improving on Wheeling creek, and Jonathan (with several others who accompanied the adventurers) remained with Col. Zane. After making preparations for the reception of their families, they proceeded to the South branch after them, returning in 1770, accompanied by Col. David Shepherd, John Wetzel (father of Lewis) and the McCulloughs - men whose names are

identified with the early history of that country. Soon after this other settlements were made, at points both above and below Wheeling, on Buffalo, Short and Grave creeks, and the Ohio; among the first to settle above Wheeling were George Lefler, John Doddridge, Benjamin Biggs, Daniel Greathouse, Joshua Baker and Andrew Swearingen.

About 1770, Capt. James Booth and John Thomas located upon the creek which received the former's name, near the present town of Boothville, Marion county. The former settled at the place known as the "Jesse Martin farm," and the latter on the "old William Martin place." Sixty years later, this latter was called the most valuable landed estate in northwestern Virginia, off the Ohio river.

About this time, also, David Morgan (the noted Indian fighter) established himself upon the Monongahela, near the mouth of Pricketts creek, five miles below Fairmont. Among others settling here at this time, were families by the name of Prickett, Ice, Hall, Cochran, Hayes, Cunningham, Hartley, Barns, Haymond, Fleming and Springer whose descendants now comprise a large proportion of the population of the surrounding country. Many of them came from the colonies of Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, crossing the mountains by the

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In 1772, settlements were made on Simpsons creek, West Fork river and Elk creek. John Simpson at this time held a "tomahawk title" on the first-mentioned stream, which was purchased by John Powers, who immediately settled upon it; and James Anderson and Jonas Webb located further up the creek. On the Elk, and in the vicinity of Clarksburg, settlements were made by Thomas Nutter, near what was afterward the Forge Mills; Samuel Cotttrial, on the east side of the creek, nearly opposite

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of Clarksburg; Sotha Hickman, on the
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d above Beard, on the farm for a long
e time owned by John W. Patton;
; Daniel Davisson, where Clarksburg is
, now situated; Obadiah Davisson and
| John Nutter, on the West fork, the
former near the old salt works, and
the latter at the place for many years
owned by Adam Hickman, Jr.

At this time a considerable
acession was also made to the
settlements on Buckhannon and
Hackers creek. So great was the
increase in population in the latter
neighborhood, that the crops of the
preceding season did not afford more
than one-third of the breadstuff that
would ordinarily be consumed in the
same time by an equal number. Such
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1773 has been known here as "the
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In 1772, the fine country lying on
the east fork of the Monongahela river,
between the Allegheny mountains, at
the southeast, and the Laurel hill (or
Rich mountain) at the northwest,
which had received the name of
Tygarts valley, attracted the attention
of a number of emigrants, and during
that year the greater part of the
valley was located. Among those who
occupied nearly all the level land
lying between those mountains — a
plain of about thirty miles in length
and varying from three-fourths to two
miles in width, of rich soil — are
found the names of Hadden,
Connelly, Whiteman, Warwiek,
Nelson, Stalnaker, Riffle and Westfall.
Cheat river (on which no attempt at
settlement had been made but by the
unfortunate Eckarllys) then began to
attract attention. The Horse Shoe
bottom was located by Captain James
Parsons, of the South branch; also, in
the neighborhood, settled Robert
Cunningham, Henry Fink, John Goff;
and John Minear, Robert Butler,
William Morgan and others settled on
the Dunkard bottom.

These were the principal settlements begun in Northwestern Virginia prior to the year 1774. Few and scattered as they were, when it became known that they were established, hundreds flocked to them from every part of the country, and no sooner had they come together than similitude of situation and a common danger created a bond of union and friendship.

THE GREAT KANAWHA RIVER AND ITS TRIBUTARIES

In the year 1753, when all this region was an unbroken wilderness, a party of Shawnees came from their villages on the Scioto river (now in Ohio) and made a raid upon the frontier settlements of Virginia, in what is now Montgomery county. Taking the whites by surprise, they destroyed their settlement, murdered the greater portion of them, and retreated with a number of captives, down New river, Kanawha and Ohio, to their homes. One of these captives was Mrs. Mary Ingles, who afterward made her escape and returned to her friends, to whom she related that the party of savages stopped several days at a salt spring on the Kanawha river, during which time they were engaged in manufacturing salt by boiling the water. This was the first account of salt making west of the Alleghenies.

The earliest white settlement in the Kanawha valley was made by Walter Kelley and family, at the mouth of the creek which bears his name, in 1774, several months before the battle of Point Pleasant.

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The earliest white settlement in the Kanawha valley was made by Walter Kelley and family, at the mouth of the creek which bears his name, in 1774, several months before the battle of Point Pleasant. These people were all killed by the Indians; but after the battle of the Point, when there was greater security for life, the valley was rapidly settled, mostly by Virginians, and largely by the hardy soldiers who had followed General Lewis to Point Pleasant. Among the earliest land locations was one of 502 acres, made in 1785 by John Dickinson, (from the Valley of Virginia,) to include the mouth of Campbells creek, the bottom above, and the salt spring. The place was sold by him to Joseph Ruffner, in 1794, who removed to the Kanawha in 1795, and purchased 900 acres of river bottom from George and William Clendenin, which extended from the

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which the village of Charleston had
been laid out and started, the
previous year.

A few hundred yards above the
mouth of Campbells creek, just in
front of Thoroughfare gap, Daniel
Boone made a log cabin settlement,
and resided on the opposite side of
the river, on the Splint Coal bottom.
Here he lived for a number of years,
engaged in hunting, trapping and
fighting the Indians, and in 1791,
served as one of the delegates from
Kanawha county to the Legislature at
Richmond.

KANAWHA RIVER SETTLERS

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The first white man who reached
the mouth of the Kanawha, of which
history makes mention, was
Christopher Gist, the agent and
surveyor of the Ohio Land Company.
In the year 1749, he set out on a
tour of exploration north of the
Ohio, where the lands of his employer
were located, and in 1750, when on
his return, he reached the mouth of
the Great Kanawha, and made a
thorough exploration of the country
north of that river. His journal may
be seen in the library of the
Massachusetts Historical Society. Mrs.
Hannah Dennis, in the year 1763,
returning from a three month's expedition

of Virginia, in Montgomery county, by surprise, they were taken, murdered and buried. One of them, and a number of captives, Kanawha and Ohio, of these captives, who afterward returned to her, related that they had spent several days in the Kanawha river, by which they were engaged by boiling the fat account of the Alleghenies. A settlement in the trade by Walter the mouth of his name, in before the. These people Indians; but Point, when y for life, the d, mostly by by the hardy wed General. Among the s one of 502 s by John Valley of mouth of tom above, e place was Rulher, in he Kanawha 200 acres of and William d from the

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The first trail through the wilds from Lewisburg to this valley was that made by the army of General Lewis when on its march to Point Pleasant, in 1774; this was known as "Lewis Trace," and was nothing

better than a bridle-path; the first wagon-road was completed in 1786. A fort was erected at the mouth of the Kanawha in 1774, and soon afterward Clendenin's fort, where Charleston now stands. Many families resided in these forts during the continuance of the Indian war, who, escaping from their confinement after the declaration of peace, in 1795, began the permanent settlement of the valley. Among these were the families of Ruffner, Arbuckle, Morris, Greenlee, Tretter, Cautrell, Clendenin, Van Bebber and many others.

IN THE GREENBRIER COUNTRY

The first permanent settlement west of the Blue Ridge was made by Joist Hite, who, in 1732, came with fifteen other families, and settled in what is now Frederick county, Virginia; he was soon followed by many others. About the year 1749, there was a man in Frederick county subject to lunacy, and when at times laboring under its influence, he would ramble long distances into the wilderness. In one of these wanderings he came upon the waters of Greenbrier river, and, surprised to find them flowing in a westerly direction, he made the fact known on

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direction, he made the fact known on
his return to Winchester, and that the
country abounded in game. In
consequence of this information, two
men (recently from New England),
named Suel (Sewell) and Martin
(Marlin), visited the locality, and took
up their residence on Greenbrier river.
The former moved 40 miles west of
their first improvement, and fell a prey
to the Indians, and the latter soon
returned to the settlements. John
Lewis and his son Andrew came to the
same section in 1751, and thoroughly
explored it, and when permission was
granted to the Greenbrier company (of
which John Lewis was a member) to
locate 100,000 acres on the waters of
the river, they became the agents to
make the surveys and locations. The
war between France and England, in
1754, checked their proceedings, and
in 1761, they were prevented from
resuming them by royal edict, which
commanded all those who had made
settlements on the western waters, to
remove from them, in order that peace
might be maintained with the Indians,

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Previous to the issuing of this
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moved to Greenbrier and made two
settlements — one on Muddy creek,
and the other in the Big levels; these,
disregarding the royal command,
remained until they were destroyed by
the Indians, in 1763, and from this
time until 1769, Greenbrier was
uninhabited; at the later date, Captain
John Stuart and a few other young
men began to settle and improve the
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In 1756, settlements were also
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and among the daring adventurers
who effected them were Evan Shelby,
William Campbell, William Preston,
Thomas Walden and Daniel Boone, all
of whom became distinguished in the
history of the country. The lands
taken up by them were held as "corn
rights," each acquiring a title to an
hundred acres of land for every acre
planted in corn.

THE FIRST ENGLISH TRADERS PRIOR 1795

As early as the year 1740, traders
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THE FIRST ENGLISH TRADERS PRIOR 1795

As early as the year 1740, traders
from the colonies of Pennsylvania and
eastern Virginia went among the
Indians on the Ohio and its tributary
streams to deal for skins and pelts. In
the second volume of Spark's Writings
of Washington is recorded the first
attempt toward a permanent
settlement on the Ohio river. "In the
year 1748, Thomas Lee, one of his
majesty's counsel in Virginia, formed
a design of effecting a settlement on
the wild lands west of the Allegheny
mountains through the association of
a number of gentlemen. Before this
date there were no English residents
in those regions. A few traders
wandered from tribe to tribe and
dwelt among the Indians, but they
neither cultivated or occupied the
land. Mr. Lee associated with himself
Mr. Hanbury, a merchant from
London, and twelve persons in
Virginia and Maryland, composing the
Ohio Land Company. A half million
of acres of land was granted them, to
be taken principally on the south side
of the Ohio river, between the
Monongahela and Kanawha rivers."

Following the treaty of
Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1749, the French

began to take formal possession of their discoveries on the Ohio river and its tributaries. February 10, 1763, peace was established between Great Britain, France and Spain, at which time France surrendered to the English the Canadas and all her possessions east of the Mississippi river, as far south as the thirty-first degree of latitude; while Spain gave up Florida. In 1764, France ceded Louisiana to Spain, thus abandoning the last of her territory in North America. The Indians being now deserted by their old allies, the French (who, for a long series of years, had been their friends, supplying them with clothing and implements of war), it was thought that they would remain at peace with the English settlements. Having faith in their fair promises to this effect, traders, provided with valuable assortments of merchandise to be exchanged for their peltries, circulated with more freedom among them along the rivers. But in the summer of 1763, a formidable alliance was formed, composed of all the western tribes from the Muskingum to the Michillimackinac, for the purpose of exterminating the whites. They were doubtless partly instigated to this by their old allies, the French, who smarting under their late defeat, looked with a jealous eye upon the advance of the English settlers.

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GENERAL SITUATION 1765-1795

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GENERAL SITUATION 1765-1795

After a treaty of peace with the Indians, by Colonel Boquet, in 1765, the district of West Augusta began to be settled more rapidly by people from east of the mountains. Between the years 1769-74, the settlements made extended in a circular belt, around a large wilderness of forest; commencing at Wheeling and Grave

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creek on the Ohio river, passing over
 the dividing mountains to the
 Monongahela river, thence to
 Clarksburg, on the West Fork river,
 thence over to Tygart valley and
 Buckhannon rivers in the east, thence
 southward to Greenbrier and New
 rivers, thence westward, down New
 and Big Kanawha rivers to the Ohio
 river, at Point Pleasant. This
 semi-circle embraces about 170 miles
 on the Ohio river, extending back
 southeastward from 50 to 125 miles.
 The vast territory of forest lands in
 the central part of this tract was left
 unsettled at that time, owing to the
 fear of attack from passing bands of
 Indians, and from this time to the
 beginning of the present century, it
 was slow to receive emigrants. From
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 Northwestern territory (excepting the
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EVENTS IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF WESTERN VIRGINIA

A general description of the war
between the Indians and the early
pioneers is given in the accompanying
history of the State. It would be
impossible and undesirable to give a
full and complete account of the
numerous atrocities that were
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A general description of the war between the Indians and the early pioneers is given in the accompanying history of the State. It would be impossible and undesirable to give a full and complete account of the numerous atrocities that were committed during its continuance; it were better, perhaps, to forget some of the heart-sickening details, rather than have the memory of them perpetuated, as it could serve no good purpose. Enough, however, of the most important and interesting, will be chronicled, gathered from the recollections and notes of old pioneers, as will serve to illustrate the spirit of the times. and the trials and troubles of the early settlers.

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THE INDIANS PROVOKED TO OPEN HOSTILITY

There were no outbreaks among the Indians of northwestern Virginia for a period of nearly ten years after

the close of the French and Indian war (1765 to 1774), and this state of affairs would doubtless have longer continued, had it not been for the barbarous action on the part of a few whites. Among these atrocities was the unprovoked murder of three Indians by John Ryan, on the Ohio, Monongahela and Cheat rivers, at different periods during this time. Capt. Peter, a chief of some distinction, was the first of Ryan's victims, and the others were also noted warriors, who were on friendly terms with the whites. About the same time, other friendly Indians were killed in this vicinity while visiting the white settlers.

Among the victims to the treachery of this unscrupulous class of white settlers was Bald Eagle, an Indian well known as a warm friend, who was frequently in the habit of associating with them. While on one of his visits to the white settlements, he was waylaid by Jacob Scott, William Hacker and Elijah Runner, and murdered in cold blood. Seating the body in the stern of a canoe, they set it afloat in the Monongahela river, after thrusting in the mouth of the dead warrior a piece of "journey cake." Several persons noticed the canoe, with its ghastly burden, descending the river.

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he was waylaid by William Hacker and Elijah Runner, and murdered in cold blood. Seating the body in the stern of a canoe, they set it afloat in the Monongahela river, after thrusting in the mouth of the dead warrior a piece of "journey cake." Several persons noticed the canoe, with its ghastly burden, descending the river, but supposed that Bald Eagle was merely returning from a visit to his white friends at the up-river settlements. The canoe finally floated near the shore, below the mouth of Georges creek, where it was observed by a Mrs. Province, who, recognizing the unfortunate old man, had him brought to the shore and decently buried.

In 1772, there was an Indian town on the Little Kanawha called Bulltown inhabited by five families, who were in habits of friendly and social intercourse with the whites on Buckhannon, and on Hackers creek, frequently visiting and hunting with them. There was likewise residing on Gauley river the family of a German named Stroud. In the summer of that year, Mr. Stroud being from home, his family were all murdered, his house plundered and his cattle driven off. The trail made by the marauders leading in the direction of Bulltown, induced the supposition that the Indians of the village had been the

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authors of the outrage, and caused several to resolve to revenge it upon them.

A party of five men, two of whom were William White and William Hacker, who had been concerned in previous murders, expressed a determination to proceed immediately to Bulltown. The remonstrance of the settlement could not operate to effect a change in their purpose. They went, and on their return, circumstances justified the belief that the pre-apprehension of those who knew the temper and feelings of White and Hacker, had been well founded, and that there had been some fighting between them and the Indians. And notwithstanding they denied having seen an Indian in their absence, yet it was the prevailing opinion that they had destroyed all the men, women and children at Bulltown, and thrown their bodies into the river. Indeed, one of the party is said to have, inadvertently, used expressions confirmatory of this opinion, and to have then justified the deed by saying that the clothes and other things known to have belonged to Stroud's family were found in the possession of the Indians. The village was soon

one of the party is said to have, inadvertently, used expressions confirmatory of this opinion, and to have then justified the deed by saying that the clothes and other things known to have belonged to Stroud's family were found in the possession of the Indians. The village was soon after visited, and found to be entirely desolated, and nothing being ever afterward heard of its former inhabitants, there can remain no doubt that the murder of Stroud's family was requited on them.

Here, then, was a fit time for the Indians to commence a system of retaliation and war; if they were disposed to engage in hostilities for offenses of this kind alone. Yet no such event was the consequence of the killing of the Bulltown Indians, or of the other murders which preceded that outrage. When the family of the Indian chief, Logan, was killed opposite Yellow creek, he said: "The Indians are not angry on account of those murders, but only myself." The renewal of hostilities by the Indians in 1774 was mainly caused by the emissaries of Great Britain, whose allies they became, and who urged and instigated an assault upon the colonists, in order to detract attention from the outrages being perpetrated upon them by England, and also to cripple them and prevent an armed resistance to the King's authority.

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which was then threatened. The Indian battle at Point Pleasant, which occurred at this time, an account of which is given in the history of the State, has, therefore, been justly termed the first battle of the Revolutionary war.

CONSTRUCTION OF FORTS AND PREPARATIONS FOR DEFENSE

As soon as it became manifest that there was to be a general war with the Indians, many of the whites in northwestern Virginia made their way to Fort Pitt (now Pittsburg), at the confluence of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, and other smaller forts were rapidly constructed throughout the country. Prickett's fort was erected at the mouth of Prickett's creek, on the Monongahela, about five miles below Fairmont, which afforded protection to all the settlers on the upper Monongahela, in the vicinity of where now stand the towns of Fairmont, Palatine, Rivesville and Newport. In Tygarts valley were erected Westfalls and Cassinos forts.

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CHIEF LOGAN'S RAID ON SIMPSONS CREEK

The region of the upper Monongahela was not the scene of active war, but straggling parties of Indians would frequently find their way to that section for the purpose of committing depredations. Probably the first of these incursions into the vicinity was made by a party of eight Indians, led by the celebrated Cayuga chief, Logan, always hitherto (until the murder of his family and other atrocities, impelled him to exchange the pipe of peace for the tomahawk), the honest "friend of the white man." They traversed the country from the Ohio river, to the West Fork, and on the 12th day of July, 1774, came suddenly upon William Robinson, Thomas Hellen and Coleman Brown, who were pulling flax in a field opposite the mouth of Simpsons creek. Taking the whites by surprise, they fired upon them, when Brown was instantly killed, and Hellen and Robinson sought safety in flight. Hellen, being an old man, was soon made captive, but Robinson, being

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Hellen, being an old man, was soon
made captive, but Robinson, being
young and active, would have made
his escape but for an accident.
Believing that he was outstripping his
pursuers, he looked over his shoulder
to see whether the Indians were
following, and ran with such force
against a tree, striking his head, that
he fell to the ground, stunned and
insensible. Taking with them a horse
which had belonged to Brown, the
savages set off with their prisoners.

As they approached their village,
Logan gave the scalp halloo (as was
usual after a successful scout), and
several warriors came out to meet
them, to conduct the prisoners into
camp. Then followed the ceremony of
running the gauntlet. Robinson,
having been previously instructed by
Logan (who had manifested a kindly
feeling toward him), made his way
with little interruption to the
council-house. Poor Hellen, however,
being infirm, and ignorant that the
council-house was a place of refuge,
was badly beaten, and finally knocked
down just before reaching the haven
of safety. Here he would have been
beaten to death, had not Robinson, at
great risk to himself, reached forth
and drawn him in. After recovering

from the effects of the beating, Hellen was adopted into an Indian family. Robinson was tied to the stake to be burned, and Logan interceded with his matchless eloquence, for his preservation. While some of the savages were moved by it, and inclined to mercy, the greater portion insisted on proceeding with the cruel tragedy, until the chief, enraged at their pertinacity, and heedless of the consequence, drew his tomahawk, and severing the cords which bound the prisoner, led him hastily to the cabin of an old squaw, by whom he was immediately adopted. Logan continued a friend to Robinson, who remained with his adopted mother until he was redeemed under the treaty made at the close of the Dunmore campaign.

INDIAN MURDERS--ATTACK ON FORT HARBERT

In September, 1774, Josiah Prickett and Mrs. Susan Ox left Pricketts fort, near Newport, for the purpose of driving up their cows. Attracted by the tinkling of the cow-bells, a party of Indians waylaid them, and succeeded in killing and scalping the former and taking the latter prisoner.

For two years after this, although the Indians continued to

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For two years after this, although the Indians continued their depredations throughout the country (utterly ignoring the treaty of peace made at Point Pleasant), no serious outrages happened in that immediate vicinity. The next important event of the kind occurred in June, 1777, on Rooting creek, a branch of West Fork, at the house of Charles Grisby. During the absence of Mr. Grisby, a party of Indians entered his house, and, after plundering it, departed, taking with them Mrs. Grisby and her two children as prisoners. The husband and father soon after returned, and, comprehending instantly what had been done, he hastily gathered a few of his neighbors together and started in pursuit. After following the trail for about six miles, they came upon a ghastly scene. Lying on the ground were the bodies of Mrs. Grisby and her younger child, both killed and scalped by their inhuman captors.

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Leaving two of their number to take care of the remains, the men pushed forward, eager to overtake the savages and avenge the bloody deed, but they were finally obliged to give up in despair and return home.

Soon after this, two Indians secreted themselves near Coons fort, on West Fork, waiting an opportunity to do some mischief, when a daughter of Mr. Coon came out of the fort into a field which bordered the roadside. Enoch Jones and Thomas Cunningham, coming down the road, held a short conversation with her, and passed on. In the meantime, the Indians were waiting for her to come near enough to enable them to capture her without alarming the people at the fort; but, turning suddenly, she observed them, and started to run home. Instantly one of the savages shot at her, while the other overtook and tomahawked her before the eyes of the horrified men, who were too far distant to render her aid. The settlers immediately started in pursuit, but the savages managed to evade them.

On the 3d of March following

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On the 3d of March following
(1778), a party of Indians came
suddenly upon a number of children
playing in a yard, on Tenmile creek,
belonging to the house known as Fort
Harbert - a place of refuge for the
settlers in the neighborhood. The
children ran, screaming to the house,
and apprised the inmates of the
approach of the savages. John
Murphy, hastening to the door, was
instantly shot, and fell back into the
house. The Indian who had fired, not
knowing that there were other men in
the house, sprang in, and was instantly
grappled by Mr. Harbert, who threw
him upon the floor, and struck him
with his tomahawk. While standing
over the prostrate savage, two shots
were fired at Harbert from without,
one of which passed through his head
and killed him. In the meantime,
Edward Cunningham was having a
terrible struggle with a warrior who
had entered immediately after the
first one. Drawing up his gun, he
attempted to shoot the savage, but it
missed fire, and the two men closed
in a hand-to-hand encounter. After a
few moments contest, Cunningham
wrenched the Indian's tomahawk
from his hand and buried it in his

back, while Mrs. Cunningham struck the savage a hasty blow with an ax, causing him to release his hold upon Cunningham, and beat a retreat from the house. The third Indian who entered the door wore the unshorn front of a buffalo, with the ears and horns still attached, and as he entered, he struck Miss Reece a blow which wounded her severely. Mrs. Reece, seeing the imminent danger of her daughter, seized the head-dress of the savage by its horns, hoping to turn aside the blow, but it came off in her hands and the blow fell upon the girl's head. Mr. Reece then attacked the Indian, but was quickly thrown to the floor, and would have been killed, had not Cunningham rushed to the rescue and tomahawked the assailant. During this time, the balance of the Indians, who had been prevented from entering the door by the women, were engaged in securing the children in the yard, in order to carry them off as prisoners; having secured the greater portion and killed the balance, they retreated. In this attack one white person was killed in the house, and four wounded; three of the eight children in the yard were killed, and the balance taken prisoners; the Indians had one killed and two wounded.

Jonathan Lowther and others, being incautious, fled for safety, a number (having the names of them and Wests forgotten) as well as Richards, as well as of their lives as to inmates had, how that the enemy Washburn (who had day before, on his returning to Rich to where Clei afterward located horse, tomahawk finding of his alarm, and they guard before the men from Hack left the neighborhood further mischief not strong enough

DEATH OF AND PURSUIT

In June of went out from greens in a field thus engaged Indians, who one shot was through Mrs. hitting her, the fort, given in pursuit.

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HUGHES AND LOWTHER SHOT, AND DEATH OF ISAAC WASHBURN

In the latter part of the following April (1778), a party of about twenty Indians came to the neighborhoods of Hackers creek and the West Fork. At this time, the inhabitants had taken refuge in West fort, on the creek, and in Richards fort, on the river; and, leaving the women and children in them during the day, under the protection of a few men, the others were in the habit of working upon their farms in companies, so that they might protect themselves from Indian attack. A company of men being thus engaged, during the first week in May, in a field (afterward owned by Minter Bailey) on Hackers creek, some fencing, others clearing or plowing, and being somewhat separated, they were unexpectedly fired upon by the Indians, and Thomas Hughes and

Jonathan Lowther shot down; the others, being incautiously without arms, fled for safety. Two of the number (having the Indians between them and Wests fort), fled towards Richards, as well for the preservation of their lives as to give the alarm. The inmates had, however, been apprised that the enemy was at hand. Isaac Washburn (who had been to mill the day before, on Hackers creek) when returning to Richards fort, and near to where Clements mills were afterward located, was shot from his horse, tomahawked and scalped. The finding of his body had given the alarm, and they were already on their guard before the arrival of the two men from Hackers creek. The Indians left the neighborhood without doing further mischief, and the whites were not strong enough to pursue them.

DEATH OF MRS. FREEMAN AND PURSUIT OF THE INDIANS

In June of this year, three women went out from Wests fort to gather greens in a field near by, and while thus engaged were fired upon by four Indians, who were lying in wait. Only one shot was fired, the ball passing through Mrs. Hacker's bonnet without hitting her, and the women ran for the fort, giving the alarm. An Indian in pursuit, having in his hand a staff with a spear at the end, thrust it through Mrs. Freeman, and then cleft the upper part of her head with his tomahawk and carried it off to secure the scalp. The screams of the women alarmed the men at the fort, who ran out and fired at the Indians without effect. Although not in time to save Mrs. Freeman, the firing served to warn the men, who were out, of their danger, and they quickly came in.

Jesse Hughes and John Schoolcraft, in making their way to the fort, saw two Indians standing by the fence so intently watching the proceedings that they managed to go around them and enter the fort without being discovered. Hughes, securing his gun, immediately started in pursuit, followed by Charles and Alexander West, Elias Hughes, James Brown and John Sleeth, and hearing one of the Indians howl like a wolf (a signal among the savages) answered him, and

the men proceeded in the direction from whence the sound came. Running to the top of a hill they saw two Indians coming toward them, in answer to their signal, and Hughes fired, when one savage fell, the other taking to flight. The fugitive sprang into the thick bushes, and while they ran around to intercept him, he came out by the way he had entered and escaped. The wounded Indian had in the meantime recovered his feet and made off, and although they tracked him some distance by the blood which flowed from his wound, a heavy rain commenced falling which soon obliterated the trail, and they were obliged to give up the chase.

DEATH OF CAPT. BOOTH AND CAPTURE OF CAPT. COCHRAN.

As Capts. James Booth and Nathaniel Cochran were at work in a field on Booths creek, near the present village of Briertown, on June 16, 1778, they were surprised by a party of Indians, who fired upon them, killing Booth, and slightly wounding Cochran. The latter fled, but was soon overtaken, made prisoner, and carried off to the Indian villages in Ohio. He was soon afterward taken to Detroit, where he was sold to another tribe, and

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Capt. Booth was probably the most prominent man in the section in which he lived, a gentleman of good education and great talent and energy,

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DEATH OF GRUNDY SAD FATE OF JAMES WASHBURN.

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A few days after the killing of Booth, the same party of Indians met Benjamin Shinn, Benjamin Washburn and William Grundy, returning from the head of Booths creek. As they laid in ambush, near Baxters run, they fired upon the whites, when Grundy was killed, and the others made their escape. William was a brother to Hon. Felix Grundy, of Tennessee, whose father was then residing at Simpsons creek, on a farm afterward owned by Col. Benjamin Wilson, sr. The death of this brother was pathetically referred to by Felix Grundy in an eloquent speech delivered by him several years afterward in the halls of Congress.

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Continuing on their way, the savages discovered James Owens, a lad sixteen years of age, who was on his way from Powers fort, on Simpsons creek, to Booths creek, and had just dismounted to adjust his saddle-girth.

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dismounted to adjust his saddle-girth;
they fired, and the ball passed
directly through him, killing both
himself and horse.

A family of Washburns, on the
West Fork, having several times
narrowly escaped from the Indians,
commenced making arrangements for
their departure. While two of them
were engaged in procuring pine-knots
from which to make wax for
shoe-making, they were discovered
and fired at by the Indians. Stephen
fell dead, and James was taken
prisoner and carried to their towns.
Upon Nathaniel Cochran's return, he
related the story of Washburn's
captivity. On the evening of the
latter's first arrival at the Indian
village, he was made to run the
gauntlet, and, although he succeeded
in reaching the council house, where
Cochran was, he was so terribly
beaten, disfigured and mutilated that
he could not be recognized by his old
acquaintances, and so stunned and
stupefied that he remained nearly all
night in a state of insensibility.

Being somewhat revived in the
morning, he approached Cochran,
sitting by the fire, who asked him if

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death, the tendons of his legs were severed by the knife of an old savage, and he sank to the earth, unable to proceed farther. Blows now fairly rained upon him, and while writhing upon the ground, in an agony of torture, his scalp was taken. Struggling to his feet, in the delirium of pain, his head was severed from his body and attached to a pole which was erected in the village.

DAVID MORGAN'S ADVENTURE

Early in the year 1779, a rumor that Indians were lurking in the neighborhood caused the inhabitants about Picketts fort to enter it for protection. Many days passed, however, yet no signs of approaching savages were discovered. Spring approached, and, although it was the season when the Indians generally commenced their depredations, it was necessary for the settlers to attend to their farm duties, which they did, during the day, returning to the fort at night. Among those who thus sought shelter was David Morgan (heretofore mentioned - a relative of General Daniel Morgan), who at this time was over sixty years of age. As he was suffering from illness, about the first of April, he sent his two children - Stephen, a youth of sixteen years, and Sarah, a girl of fourteen - to feed the cattle on his farm, which was about a mile distant, on the opposite side of the river.

learned that he clapsed and th absent, and, tal he immediately to see what del a slight emine the field where to see them s as they wo unobserved by keeping a clo two Indians toward them. alarm would self possession cheery tone, the fort." F obedience, th the Indians, in pursuit. made his p and, givin sheltered th behind inter Time en assure hin children, at the better commenced age and infir and he shou therefore s intention o again spra secured a and waited behind insufficient therefore t at the foc failed to

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Unknown to their father (who supposed they would return immediately), the children took with them a lunch and resolved to spend the day on the farm, to prepare the ground for watermelons. After feeding the stock, Stephen set to work, his sister helping him in various ways, and occasionally going to the cabin, a short distance west of where they were, to wet some linen which she was bleaching.

After the children had left the fort, Morgan (whose illness increased) went to bed, and, falling asleep, dreamed that he saw Sarah and Stephen, walking about in the yard scalped. This dream caused him an unaccountable feeling of apprehension, which increased when he learned that quite a long time had elapsed and the children were still absent, and, taking with him his gun he immediately set out for the farm to see what detained them. Ascending a slight eminence which overlooked the field where they were, he rejoiced to see them safe, and merrily talking as they worked. He sat down, unobserved by them, to rest, and, keeping a close watch, he discovered two Indians stealing from the cabin

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keeping a close watch, he discovered
two Indians stealing from the cabin
toward them. Fearing that a sudden
alarm would cause them to lose their
self possession, he called to them, in a
cheery tone, and bade them "skip for
the fort." Having been trained to
obedience, they started instantly, and
the Indians, with hideous yells, sprang
in pursuit. Morgan, at this juncture,
made his presence known to them,
and, giving up the chase, they
sheltered themselves from his bullets
behind intervening trees.

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Time enough having elapsed to
assure him of the safety of the
children, and considering discretion
the better part of valor, Morgan
commenced a retreat, but found that
age and infirmity were telling upon him
and he should soon be overtaken. He
therefore suddenly wheeled, with the
intention of firing, but the savages
again sprang behind trees. Morgan
secured a like position and watched
and waited. One of the Indians stood
behind a sapling which was
insufficient to cover his body, and he
therefore threw himself behind a log
at the foot of the tree. This also
failed to entirely shelter him, and

Morgan, observing his exposed position, fired, and the ball taking effect, the savage rolled over on his back and stabbed himself twice — being disabled by the shot he desired to cheat his enemy out of the honor of dealing him his deathwound. Having thus rid himself of one of his pursuers, Morgan again commenced his flight, the remaining Indian in close pursuit. The race thus continued for about twenty rods, when, looking over his shoulder, Morgan discovered the Indian almost upon him with his gun raised; as the latter pressed the trigger, Morgan stepped quickly aside and the ball went harmlessly by. Morgan then aimed a blow at his adversary with his gun, and the latter in turn hurled his tomahawk at him, cutting off the little finger of his left hand and knocking his weapon from his grasp. They then closed, and Morgan, being a good wrestler, notwithstanding his age, succeeded in throwing the Indian. He was not strong enough to retain his position, however, and the Indian was soon on top of him, and, with a yell of triumph, commenced feeling for his knife. Fortunately for Morgan, the Indian had been attracted by the bright colors of an apron which he had found in the cabin, and had bound it about his waist over the

Morgan, being a good wrestler, notwithstanding his age, succeeded in throwing the Indian. He was not strong enough to retain his position, however, and the Indian was soon on top of him, and, with a yell of triumph, commenced feeling for his knife. Fortunately for Morgan, the Indian had been attracted by the bright colors of an apron which he had found in the cabin, and had bound it about his waist, over the knife, and while he was fumbling for it Morgan got one of the Indian's fingers in his mouth. Finally the Indian succeeded in drawing his knife, grasping it near the blade, and as he did so the old man shut his teeth down upon the redskin's finger, which caused him to relax his hold, and Morgan, quickly drawing the knife through his hand, plunged it into his body. Feeling the Indian sink back lifeless in his arms, he released himself and started for the fort. Stephen had in the meantime swam the river, and Morgan overtook Sarah on the bank, in quest of the canoe. Finding it they crossed and entered the fort together.

After relating his adventures, Morgan retired, well-nigh exhausted, and a party of men started out to see if traces of any more could be found. On arriving where the struggle had taken place, the wounded Indian was not to be seen, but they trailed him by the blood which flowed from his side, and presently found him

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concealed in the branches of a tree.
 As they approached him, he greeted
 them appealingly with the salutation,
 "How do, broder," and surrendered
 himself into their hands. Then
 occurred one of those scenes which
 demonstrate how near akin to the
 brute creation mankind can appear
 when controlled by passion — an act
 as cruel, malignant and unmanly as
 was ever perpetrated by a savage.
 They tomahawked and scalped the
 wounded and defenseless Indian,
 flayed him and his dead companion,
 tanned their skins, and converted
 them into shot pouches and belts.

The above incident took place on
 that part of Morgan's plantation
 which is a short distance northeast of
 the residence of the late George P.
 Morgan. David's cabin stood near
 where the burying ground of the
 Morgan family is now situated, and
 his remains, with those of his family,
 rest within the enclosure.

About two months after this
 occurrence (June, 1779), as John
 Owens, John Juggins and Owen
 Owens were going to their cornfield,
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About two months after this occurrence (June, 1779), as John Owens, John Juggins and Owen Owens were going to their cornfield, on Booths creek, they were attacked by Indians, who killed and scalped the former two, but the latter escaped. A son of John Owens, who had been sent to the pasture for the horses, heard the report of the gun, and came riding along on one horse, leading the other, eager to learn the cause of the firing. He found out very suddenly, as the first intimation he received of the presence of the Indians was the whistling of the bullets that fortunately passed close by without hitting him, and, urging his horse forward, he escaped.

A WOMAN'S HEROIC ACTION

The alarm which had caused the people in the neighborhood of Picketts fort to move into it for safety, in the spring of 1779, induced two or three families to collect at the house of Mr. Bozarth, on Dunkards creek. About the first of April, when only Mrs. Bozarth and two men were in the house, the children, who had been at play, came running into the yard, declaring that "some ugly red men were coming." One of the men going to the door to ascertain the

barring the door. The children in the yard were all killed; but the heroic exertions of Mrs. Bozarth and the wounded white man, enabled them to resist the repeated attempts of the Indians to force open the door, until a party from the neighboring settlement came to their relief.

DEATH OF NATHANIEL DAVISSON

In September of this year, Nathaniel Davisson and his brother being on a hunting expedition up Ten-Mile creek, left their camp early on the morning of the day on which they intended to return home, and, naming an hour at which they would be back, proceeded through the woods in different directions. At the appointed time, Josiah entered the camp, and, after waiting in vain for the arrival of his brother, became uneasy and set out in search of him. Unable to get trace of him, he returned home and got many of his neighbors to join him in a more extended search, which was alike unavailing. In the following March, however, his body was found by John Read, while hunting in the neighborhood; he had been shot and scalped by the Indians.

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ATTACK UPON SAMUEL COTTRAIL

The last mischief that was done during the fall of this year, in this neighborhood, was perpetrated at the house of Samuel Cottrail, near the present town of Clarksburg. During the night considerable fear was excited (both at Cottrail's and at Sotha Hickman's, on the opposite side of Elk creek, by the continued barking of the dogs), that the Indinas were lurking near, and Cottrail securely fastened the doors, giving instructions that no one was to pass out of the house in the morning until it was ascertained that no danger threatened. Some time before day (Cottrail being asleep), Moses Coleman, who lived with him, got up, shelled some corn, and, giving a few ears to Cottrail's nephew (with directions to feed the pigs around the yard), went to a hand-mill, in the outhouse, and commenced grinding.

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yard), went to a hand-mill, in the
outhouse, and commenced grinding.
The little boy, being squatted down,
shelling the corn to the pigs, found
himself suddenly drawn on his back
and an Indian standing over him,
ordering him to lie there. The savage
then turned toward the house where
Coleman was and fired, and as
Coleman fell, ran up to scalp him.
Thinking this his favorable
opportunity, the boy sprang to his
feet, and, running to the house, was
admitted. Scarcely was the door
secured, when another Indian came
up and endeavored to break it open
with his tomahawk; Cottrall fired
through the door at him, and he fled.
Cottrall then ascended to the loft,
and through a crevice espied the
savages retreating through a field, so
far distant that it was impossible to
reach them with a rifle-ball. He
continued to fire and halloo, however,
in order to give notice of danger to
his neighbors.

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DISASTROUS ENCOUNTER WITH THE INDIANS

Early in March, 1780, Thomas Lackey, discovered signs of Indians near the upper extremity of Tygarts valley, and hastened to inform the inmates of Haddens fort: being so early in the season, however, and the weather cold, none believed or heeded

it. On the next day, as Jacob and William Warwick, and others from Greenbrier, were about leaving the fort for their homes, it was agreed that a company of men should attend them a short distance as a matter of what was deemed by many an act of unnecessary precaution. Proceeding carelessly on their way, they were attacked by a party of Indians lying in ambush, when the men on horseback got safely off, but those on foot were less fortunate. The savages having occupied the pass above and below, those unmounted had no chance to escape but in crossing the river and ascending a steep bluff on its opposite side; in attempting this, John McLain, James Ralston and John Nelson were killed, after a brave resistance, and James Crouch was badly wounded, but escaped. Soon after this, the wife of John Gibson was killed, and their children taken prisoners.

badly wounded, but escaped. Soon after this, the wife of John Gibson was killed, and their children taken prisoners.

SIEGE OF WEST'S FORT— INDIANS REPULSED

About this time West's fort, on Hackers creek, was visited by the savages, and the inmates being too weak in numbers to successfully resist an attack, were reduced to despair, when Jesse Hughes resolved at great risk to go for assistance. Leaving the fort at night, he cautiously found his way past the sentinels, and ran with all speed to Buchannon fort, where he raised a party of volunteers who hastened to the rescue. Arriving before day, the Indians retreated at their approach, and the whole party proceeded in safety to Buchannon fort.

Two days afterward, as Jeremiah Curl, Henry Fink and Edmund West (who were all old men), and Alexander West, Peter Cutright and Simon Schoolcraft, were returning to the fort with some property which they were securing for a neighbor, they were fired upon by the Indians, who were concealed along the bank of a run. Curl was slightly wounded, but disdaining to retreat, he called out to his companions, "Stand your ground, we can whip them." At this instant, a powerful warrior rushed at him with upraised tomahawk, and

whites, they pursued. In of fifteen and, over number of of plunder the enemy slightly wounded.

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Curl fearlessly raised his gun, but the powder being wet from the blood of his wound, it would not explode; grasping West's gun he discharged it as his assailant and brought him to the ground. The Indians then divided into two parties, and were pursued by the whites, when they hid behind trees. Alexander West shot and badly wounded one of the savages, but he was helped off by his companions. Simon Schoolcraft received a shot through his arm which would have penetrated his body had it not struck his steel tobacco box in his waistcoat pocket. Cutright espied a savage partly exposed behind a log, and with steady nerve, fired upon and severely wounded him. The balance of the Indians continued behind trees until reinforcements coming to aid the whites, they fled, and as night had by this time approached, they were not pursued. In the morning, a company of fifteen men followed their trail, and, overtaking them, secured a number of horses and a large amount of plunder which they had stolen. In the encounter John Cutright was slightly wounded.

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ABANDONMENT OF BUCHANNON FORT

On the 8th of March, as William White and Timothy Dorman and his wife were going to Buchannon fort, and had come within sight of it, they were fired at by the Indians, when the former was killed, and the latter two taken prisoners. The inmates of the fort heard the firing, but could not render assistance in time, as the river lay between. The loss of West was greatly mourned, as he was one of the ablest and most active of the rangers. A consultation was held, and it was resolved to abandon the fort on account of its exposed position.

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While some of the inhabitants of the neighborhood were engaged in moving their property to a fort in Tygarts valley, and to Nutters fort and Clarksburg, they were attacked by a party of savages, and Michael Hoyle and Elias Paynter fell; John Bush had his horse shot from under him, but he extricated himself and succeeded in escaping; a youth named Edward Tanner was taken prisoner.

Soon after these occurrences, a party of about thirty savages, headed by the infamous Timothy Dorman (who had turned traitor to the whites after being taken prisoner), came to attack Buchannon fort; they were too late, however, to accomplish their bloody purpose, as the settlement was deserted, and the inhabitants safe within the walls of other fortresses.

A few days after the evacuation of the fort, some of its former inmates went from Clarksburg to Buckhannon for grain that had been left there. When they came in sight, they found a heap of ashes where the old fort had been, which convinced them of the recent presence of Indians, but they continued to collect grain, and at night went to a house near the site of the fort, where they took up their quarters. In the morning early, a party of savages was seen crossing the river, with Dorman at their head, when the whites, thinking to impress the enemy with an exaggerated idea of their strength, made a hurried advance toward them and they took to the woods. The whites then entered the house and fortified it as best they could and at night George Jackson undertook the hazardous task of going

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Discouraged in not being able to accomplish anything here, the savages went on to the valley, where they met John Bush and wife, Jacob Stahmaker and his son Adam; the latter fell at the first fire, but the balance providentially escaped. The Indians then crossed the Allegheny mountains, and made an attack upon Mr. Gregg, Dorman's former master. The family all escaped but the daughter, who was taken prisoner; refusing to accompany Dorman, the heartless wretch sunk his tomahawk into her head, and then scalped her.

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MASSACRE OF THE THOMAS FAMILY

Early in the month of March, 1781, a party of Indians made a raid upon the settlements along the Monongahela, and on the night of the 5th arrived at the house of Capt. John Thomas, on Booths creek, near

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the site of the present town of
Boothsville. Elizabeth Juggins
(daughter of John Juggins, whose
murder has been previously
mentioned) was visiting at the house
at this time. When the Indians arrived,
the inmates were engaged in family
devotions, and Capt. Thomas was in
the act of repeating the lines of the
hymn, "Go, worship at Emanuel's
feet." A gun was fired from without,
and he fell, when the Indians forced
open the door, and commenced the
most dreadful tragedy that had as yet
been enacted in that neighborhood.

Mrs. Thomas implored mercy for
herself and children in vain; she was
answered with a blow from the
tomahawk in the hands of a brawny
warrior, and in a short space of time
her body and those of six of her
children lay weltering in their blood
around that of her husband. The
savages then proceeded to scalp their
victims, and, after plundering the
house, took their departure,
accompanied by one little boy as
prisoner.

At the time of the attack, Capt. Thomas

Here the old fort had convinced them of the loss of Indians, but they lost grain, and at night near the site of the they took up their morning early, a party then crossing the river, their head, when the to impress the enemy ated idea of their a hurried advance they took to the s then entered the d it as best they at George Jackson rdous task of going nforcement, which mplished, and the e with their grain. ot being able to here, the savages ley, where they nd wife, Jacob son Adam; the at fire, but the escaped. The the Allegheny an attack upon former master. aped but the aken prisoner; Dorman, the his tomahawk n scalped her.

THOMAS

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Mrs. Thomas implored mercy for herself and children in vain; she was answered with a blow from the tomahawk in the hands of a brawny warrior, and in a short space of time her body and those of six of her children lay weltering in their blood around that of her husband. The savages then proceeded to scalp their victims, and, after plundering the house, took their departure, accompanied by one little boy as prisoner.

As soon as she saw Capt. Thomas fall, Miss Juggins threw herself under the bed, where she remained hidden during the fearful occurrence. When the savages had gone, she came out from her hiding place and found Mrs. Thomas alive, though unable to move. She asked Miss Juggins to hand her the body of her murdered infant, and begged her not to leave her, but the young lady, anxious for her own safety, took refuge for the balance of the night between two logs. In the morning she spread the alarm among the neighbors, who hastened to the scene, and found the body of Mrs. Thomas lying in the yard, whiter she had crawled and died during the night. The Indians had evidently made the place a second visit, for all that remained of the house and bodies was a heap of ashes and charred bones. After this massacre, the settlement on Booths creek was abandoned, and the settlers went to Simpsons creek for greater security.

DEATH OF A PARTY OF INDIANS DEATH OF CHARLES WASHBURN

In the month of April, 1782, as some men were returning to Chert

river from Clarksburg (where they had been to obtain certificates of settlement rights to their lands, from the commissioners), they encountered a large party of Indians, after crossing the Valley river, and three of the whites were killed; the balance fled back to Clarksburg and gave the alarm. This was quickly communicated to the other settlements, and spies were sent out to watch for the enemy. The savages were discovered by some of these on West fork, at the mouth of Isaacs creek, and intelligence was immediately carried to the forts. Col. William Lowther collected a company of men, and going in pursiut, came within view of their encampment, just before night, on a branch of Hughes river, ever since known as Indian creek. Jesse and Elias Hughes (active and intrepid men) were left to watch the movements of the savages, while the balance retired a short distance to refresh themselves, and prepare for an attack in the morning.

Before day, Col. Lowther arranged his men in order of attack, and when it became light (a preconcerted signal having been given), a general fire was poured in upon the enemy. Five of

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Before day, Col. Lowther arranged his men in order of attack, and when it became light (a preconcerted signal having been given), a general fire was poured in upon the enemy. Five of the savages fell dead, leaving all their plunder and ammunition, and all their guns excepting one. A number of captives were thus released, but one (a son of Alexander Rony) was unfortunately killed by the fire of the whites. Deeming it imprudent to follow, Col. Lowther and party buried young Rony, and securing the horses, plunder, ammunition, etc., of the savages, returned home.

In June, some Indians came into the neighborhood of Clarksburg, and one of them (more venturesome than the rest) entered the town and shot Charles Washburn, who was chopping wood in his lot. Then rushing up, he severed his skull with the ax, took his scalp and escaped. Three of Washburn's brothers had previously been murdered by the savages.

ATTACK UPON THE CUNNINGHAM FAMILY

Among the settlers who came into this vicinity from 1780 to 1785, were

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David Evans, two families named
Witeman, Henry Leeper, Benjamin
Veach, the Halberts and others. The
first three settled in the vicinity of
Yellow Rockford, on the West fork;
Veach settled upon a farm a short
distance west of Fairmont. Jonathan
Nixon (from whom those of the same
family name in this section
descended) located, about this time,
near Boothsville. Many other families
came into this neighborhood,
immediately following the close of
the Revolutionary war, until it
became quite well populated, and no
serious Indian depredations occurred
here until 1785.

During this year, six Indians came
upon the farm of Thomas and
Edward Cunningham, on Bingamon
creek, which empties into the West
fork a short distance above
Worthington, Marion county. The two
brothers lived, with their respective
families, in two separate houses which
nearly adjoined each other. Thomas
was east of the mountains on a trading
expedition at this time and his wife
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Worthington, Marion county. The two brothers lived, with their respective families, in two separate houses which nearly adjoined each other. Thomas was east of the mountains on a trading expedition at this time and his wife and four children were engaged in eating dinner, as were also Edward and his family, in their house. Suddenly, an Indian entered the former house, and closed the door behind him. Edward, from his cabin, observed this proceeding, and, after fastening his own door, stepped to a small window in the wall next to the other house, and stood ready to fire the moment that he caught sight of the Indian. The savage, however, saw the movement, and fired at him, without effect. The moment that he discovered that he had missed his mark, the redskin seized an ax and commenced cutting his way out of the back wall of the house, to avoid exposing himself to a fire from the other building. Another Indian at this time coming into the yard, Edward fired at and wounded him.

In the meantime, Mrs. Cunningham and her children, who were in the house with the Indian, remained perfectly quiet, hoping that he would retire without molesting them. In this she was doomed to disappointment. Having finished the opening, the savage approached the frightened group, and, sinking his tomahawk into the brains of one of the children,

threw the body into the yard and ordered Mrs. Cunningham to follow. She obeyed, holding one infant in her arms, the other two screaming and clinging to her.

After setting fire to the house, the Indian retired with his prisoners to an eminence in the adjoining field, where two of his bretheren were caring for the one who was wounded. Two others were in the yard watching for the opening of the door of Edward's house, when the fire should drive the family from their shelter. When his cabin caught fire, however, from the other burning building, Edward and his son ascended to the loft, and, throwing off the loose boards which formed the roof, extinguished the flames, the savages, in the meantime, making an ineffectual attempt to shot them.

The Indians finally abandoned, for a time, their designs against Edward and his family, and made preparations for departure. They first tomahawded and scalped the remaining son of Mrs. Cunningham, and sank a hatchet into the head of her little daughter, whom they then took by the legs, and beat her brains out against a tree. Mrs. Cunningham and her babe were carried off into captivity. Crossing at Bingamon creek, the Indians concealed themselves in a cave until nightfall, when they returned to Edward Cunningham's and, finding no one there, they plundered and set fire to the house.

The sufferings of Mrs. Cunningham, in the first place, were beyond description, soon after which, she was added all the most intense could possibly arrive at the it became apparent that she was to suffer torture, and, in the village, she earned a name for the stony hearted was for on degree that she was conducted to Kentucky, furnished with way home, hardships. To her husband's grief in the loss of their child.

OTHER

In the fall of 1811, James S. Snow for some time hunting Indians. They were a party of about 100, were found

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Cunningham, and sank a hatchet into the head of her little daughter, whom they then took by the legs, and beat her brains out against a tree. Mrs. Cunningham and her babe were carried off into captivity. Crossing at Binghamon creek, the Indians concealed themselves in a cave until nightfall, when they returned to Edward Cunningham's and, finding no one there, they plundered and set fire to the house.

Hearing that the Indians would renew the attack, Edward and his family had sought shelter in the woods, where they remained all night, the nearest settlement being eight miles distant. As soon as morning dawned, they proceeded to the nearest house and gave the alarm, when a company was formed to go in pursuit of the Indians. After burying the bodies of the murdered children, a search was instituted, but the wiley foe had so covered up their retreat that no traces could be found of them. It was afterward proven that the Indians were in the cave, before mentioned, when the party in pursuit were so close that the prisoner (Mrs. Cunningham) heard their voices; when they afterward thought to search this place, the savages had taken their departure.

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The sufferings of Mrs. Cunningham, in her rapid journey afoot to the Indian towns, were beyond description. Her babe was killed, soon after starting, and to the most intense anguish of mind was added all the bodily sufferings that could possibly be endured. On arriving at their place of destination, it became apparent to her that she was to suffer death by the most cruel torture, and, Simon Girty arriving in the village, she plead to him in so earnest a manner for deliverance, that the stony heart of this white savage was for once touched to such a degree that he paid her ransom. She was conducted to a station in Kentucky, whence, having been furnished with a horse, she found her way home, after experiencing many hardships. The joy of finally meeting her husband was veiled with bitter grief in the memory of the cruel fate of their children.

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OTHER INDIAN ATROCITIES

In the fall of 1786, John Ice and James Snodgrass left home to look for some horses they had lost while hunting buffalo on Fishing creek. They were killed and scalped by a party of Indians, and their remains were found several days afterward.

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Soon after this occurrence, a party of Indians in passing Buffalo Creek, came suddenly upon Mrs. Dragoon and her son in a cornfield, took them prisoners, and then laid in ambush beside the path leading to the house in anticipation of the approach of others. Uneasy at the detention of Mrs. Dragoon and her son, Nicholas Wood and Jacob Straight came out to learn the cause, and were fired upon, the former being killed, and the later, after a short chase, captured. The savages then started in pursuit of Mrs. Straight and her daughter, but hearing the firing, they had so effectually concealed themselves that the Indians failed to find them. Before taking their departure, Straight was killed and scalped.

When Mrs. Dragoon upon a horse, they started with her and her son for the Indian town. Soon after starting,

the house upon which she was sitting
clipped and fell, and Mrs. Draper's
limb was broken. This unfortunate
accident cost the woman her life, for
the Indians immediately tomahawked
and scalped her. Her son William (a
lad of about seven years of age)
reached the Indian town and
remained a captive for many years.
When after the war with the savages
ceased, Draper's brother started
from home to see if he could gain
tidings of him, and found him, after a
diligent search, among the Indians in
northwestern Ohio. He had married
an Indian girl (who had recently
died), by whom he had four children.
He would not return with his brother,
but, according to his promise, he
soon afterward came to Buffalo
creek, bringing two of his boys with
him. Here he remained, and his
children received as good an
education as the common schools of
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ONE OF LEVI MORGAN'S ADVENTURES

In the year 1787, some Indians again visited the settlement on Buffalo creek near the present town of Farmington, and came upon Levi Morgan, who was a short distance from home, engaged in skinning a wolf which he had just caught in a trap. On looking up from his occupation, he observed three savages coming toward him, one of them being mounted upon a horse which he recognized as belonging to a neighbor. Seizing his gun, he sprang behind a rock, near by, and as he did so, the Indians took refuge behind trees. Looking out from his shelter he found one of the savages exposed, and firing, with a quick aim, killed him. Attempting to reload, he found his powder gone, and took to flight. One of the remaining Indians started in pursuit, and then ensued an exciting chase. Although Morgan was a fleet runner, his pursuer gained upon him, notwithstanding the fugitive divested himself of gun and coat. His chances for saving his scalp were becoming desperate, when the natural shrewdness of the buckwoodsman came to his rescue. Arriving at the summit of a hill, he

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stopped short, and, waving his arms in a frantic manner, shouted, "This way — make haste! There is only one of them!" The Indian, naturally supposing that Morgan had met some of his friends on the other side of the hill turned and made a hasty retreat, his speed accelerated by the quick-witted Morgan, who enjoying the situation, gave chase for a short distance, leading his imaginary recruits with urgent shouts. He took pains, however, to allow the savage to gain upon him, and when out of sight he returned home.

Morgan afterward attended the treaty of peace at Auglaize, and met this Indian, in whose hands he recognized his gun. He took great delight in relating to the savage how he had out-generated him, and proposed a friendly race to decide the ownership of the gun. The proposition was accepted, and the Indian was beaten. Good-humoredly passing over the weapon, he rubbed his limbs exclaiming, "Stiff and old!"

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A FATAL ERROR—MURDER OF WILLIAM JOHNSON'S CHILDREN

In September, 1787, a party of
Indians was discovered in the act of
catching some horses on the West
Fork, above Clarksburg, and a
company of men, led on by Colonel
Lowther, went immediately in pursuit
of them. On the third night the
pursued and the pursuing parties,
unknown to each other, encamped
not far apart, and early in the
morning, the fires of the former being
discovered by Elias Hughes, the
detachment which accompanied him
fired upon the Indian camp, and one
of the savages fell. The remainder
taking to flight, one of them passed
near where Colonel Lowther and the
balance of the party were; the colonel
fired at him as he ran and he fell
dead. The horses and plunder which
had been taken by the savages were
then collected by the whites and they
commenced their return home, with
too much confidence in their security.
They had not proceeded far when
two shots were unexpectedly fired at
them, one of which took effect upon
John Bonnet, who died before
reaching home.

In August, 1789, five Indians, on their way to the settlements on the waters of the Monongahela, met with two men on Middle Island creek, and killed them. Taking their horses, they continued on their route until they came to the house of William Johnson, took Mrs. Johnson and her children prisoners, plundered the house, killed part of the stock, and taking with them one of Johnson's horses, returned towards the Ohio river. At the time the Indians had arrived at the house, Johnson had gone to a lick not far off, and, upon his return in the morning, seeing what had been done, and searching until he had found the trail of the savages and their prisoners, he ran to Clarksburg for assistance. A company of men repaired with him immediately to where he had discovered the trail, and keeping it about a mile, four of the children lying dead in the woods. The savages had tomahawked and scalped them, and placing their heads close together, turned thier bodies and feet straight out, so as to represent a cross. The fate of Mrs. Johnson is unknown.

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In the spring of 1790, the neighborhood of Clarksburg was again visited by Indians in quest of plunder, who carried off several horses. They were discovered and pursued to the Ohio river, when the pursuers, being reinforced, determined to follow on over into the Indian country. Crossing the river, and ascending the Hockhocking, near the falls they came upon the camp of the savages. The whites, taking them by surprise, opened fire, which killed one and wounded others, and the remainder fled, leaving the horses in the camp. These were brought back and restored to their owners.

THE FATE OF JOHN M'INTIRE AND WIFE

As John McIntire and his wife were returning home from a visit to a neighbor, in May, 1791, they passed through the yard of Uriah Ashcraft. Soon afterward, Mr. Ashcraft was startled by the growling of one of his dogs, and hastening to the door, he espied an Indian. Closing the door, he ascended the stairs and endeavored to shoot the savage from a window, but

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ATTACK ON CARPENTER

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 McIntire's brothers coming up,
 Ashcraft explained the situation and
 the four started off in pursuit. About
 a mile from the house, they found
 the body of John McIntire, who had
 been killed and scalped. Concluding
 that Mrs. McIntire (whom they knew
 to have been with him) was taken
 prisoner, they sent to Clarksburg for
 assistance to go to her rescue.

A company of eleven men started
 shortly afterward, in pursuit of the
 Indians, led by Colonels George
 Jackson and John Haymond, who
 traced them as far as Middle Island
 creek. Here six men - William
 Haymond (of Palatine), George
 Jackson, Benjamin Robinson, N.
 Carpenter, John Haymond and John
 Halbert - were chosen to go ahead of
 the horses and follow the trail. They
 soon came upon the savages and
 attacked them, mortally wounding
 one of them. After a short encounter
 the Indians fled, leaving their plunder
 behind them, and farther pursuit was
 abandoned. Among the articles which
 they left was the scalp of Mrs.
 McIntire, whose body was afterward
 found near that of her husband.

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ATTACK ON CAPT. MCINTIRE AS
CARPENTER AND PARTY

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behind them, and farther pursuit was
abandoned. Among the articles which
they left was the scalp of Mrs.
McIntire, whose body was afterward
found near that of her husband.

ATTACK ON CAPT. NICHOLAS CARPENTER AND PARTY

Nicholas Carpenter, who was a
member of the first county court of
Harrison county, in 1784, was a man
of exemplary character, firm courage
and sound judgment, and in looking
over the old county records his name
will be found frequently mentioned in
connection with positions of trust. He
was one of those men who seemed to
be especially provided by Providence
for the good of these pioneer
communities, one hundred years ago,
but his final fate was a sad one.

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It was during the month of
September, 1791, that a party of
Indians crossed the Ohio, and
captured a bright mulatto boy named
Frank Wycoff, belonging to Captain
Neal, of Neals Station, near the
mouth of Little Kanawha. Proceeding
on their way towards West Fork river,
they came across the trail made by
Captain Nicholas Carpenter, of

Harrison county, in driving cattle to Marietta. Supposing it to be the trail of emigrants, they followed it. Captain Carpenter and his son, with five persons accompanying them, had crossed Bull creek and encamped on a run located half a mile from the Ohio river, six miles above Marietta, which has since been called "Carpenters run." Being unsuspecting of the vicinity of the enemy, they lay down with their feet to the fire, not deeming it necessary to have one of their number as guard. At day-dawn Mr. Carpenter called up the men and was about commencing the usual morning devotions, when the Indians made the attack, and, taking them wholly by surprise, without having their fire-arms at hand, they were enabled to make little successful resistance. After firing a volley the Indians rushed upon them with the tomahawk. One of the party was killed at the first fire (Ellis, from Greenbrier county), and one (John Paul) was wounded through the hand. One of the party, named Hughes, a skilled hunter and experienced with former encounters with the savages, seized Carpenter's rifle and his own, and sprang through the woods, followed by the Indians. He fired one of the guns at his pursuers and threw it away. He was but partly dressed; his long leggins, fastened only by the belt at the top and loose below.

enabled to make little resistance. After firing a volley the Indians rushed upon them with the tomahawk. One of the party was killed at the first fire (Ellis, from Greenbrier county), and one (John Paul) was wounded through the hand. One of the party, named Hughes, a skilled hunter and experienced with former encounters with the savages, seized Carpenter's rifle and his own, and sprang through the woods, followed by the Indians. He fired one of the guns at his pursuers and threw it away. He was but partly dressed; his long leggins, fastened only by the belt at the top and loose below, greatly impeded his flight, and he found it necessary to stop for a moment and tear them off. This delay nearly cost him his life, as his pursuer, approaching within a few feet of him, threw his tomahawk with such accuracy as to graze his head. Freed from the incumbrance of his leggins, he soon left the foe far in the rear. John Paul also escaped by running. Burns, being slow of foot, after a brave resistance, with only his jack-knife for a weapon, was killed and scalped. George Legit was pursued for over two miles, when he was overtaken and killed. Mr. Carpenter was a brave man, but being without means of defense, and unable to run, owing to lameness, he concealed himself among the willows in the bed of the run with his little son. They were both soon found and killed. Previous to commencing the attack, the Indians had secured their

INCIDENT OF

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captive, Frank, by leathern thongs to
 a stout sapling on an adjacent ridge.
 By great effort he released himself
 and hid. From his place of
 concealment he witnessed the escape
 of Hughes, and finally stealing away,
 returned to his master. After the
 affray was ended, the Indians (who
 were in command of the celebrated
 chief, Tecumseh, then a young man),
 collected the plunder of the camp,
 and retreated in such haste that they
 left all the horses, which had
 probably dispersed into the woods at
 the first sound of attack. Isaac
 Williams headed a party and made
 pursuit after them, but failing to
 overtake them, the party returned and
 buried the remains of Captain
 Carpenter, his son, and the other
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INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF JESSE HUGHES

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INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF JESSE HUGHES

The subject of this sketch was one
of those bold pioneers who took a
conspicuous part in the defence of
the whites on the frontier against the
Indians, and gained great celebrity for
his courage and shrewdness. He was
bred from infancy in the hot-bed of
Indian warfare, and resided at
Clarksburg. He was a light-built spare
man, and became one of the most
experienced backwoodsmen and
Indian fighters of his day.

About the year 1790, some Indians
one night, coming secretly upon the
settlement at Clarksburg, stole some
horses, and the next morning at
daylight a party of twenty-five men,
starting in pursuit, came upon the
trail, and judged, by the appearances,
there were only eight or ten of them.
The captain and a majority were in
favor of pursuing the trail, but
Hughes was opposed to this, and
advised them to let him pilot them by
a near way to the Ohio, and intercept
the Indians in their retreat. They
would not listen to him, and he
explained the danger of following the
trail and exposing themselves to an
ambush of the savages, who might
thereby, after a destructive fire upon
their pursuers, make their escape. The
captain, jealous of Hughes' influence,
broke up the council by exclaiming,

"All the men may follow me; let the cowards go home," and dashed off at full speed. Hughes felt the insult, but followed with the others, and the result proved as he predicted. Two Indians in ambush, on the top of a cliff, fired and mortally wounded two of the party, while passing through a ravine, and then escaped. Now convinced of their error, they placed themselves under Hughes, but upon reaching the Ohio river, they found that the savages had crossed it. Hughes then got satisfaction of the captain by declaring that he would see who the cowards were, and calling for volunteers to follow him across the river in pursuit, they all refused. He then said he would go alone, and leave his scalp or bring one back with him. Alone he crossed the river, and the next morning came upon their camp when they were all absent hunting, except one Indian, who was left on guard. It was the work of a moment to shoot him, and with the scalp as trophy, he soon found his way back home, through seventy miles of wilderness.

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At one time, when the frequent incursions of the Indians rendered it a season of great danger, and when the inhabitants of the neighborhood were taking refuge in the forts, Hughes one morning observed a lad seated upon the ground (inside the enclosure which stood in the vicinity of where the fair grounds are now located, on the river, at the western outskirts of Clarksburg), very intently fixing his gun. "Jim," said he, "what are you going to do?" "I am going to shoot a turkey that I hear gobbling over there on the hillside; listen, and you will hear it," replied Jim. "Well," said Hughes, after distinguishing the distant sound, "you stay here; I'll go and kill it." Jim, after considerable persuasion, knowing that Hughes was an expert marksman, consented to remain and let the latter go alone, who, as he departed, promised to present him with the game. Hughes went out of the fort on the side that was farthest from the spot whence the sound proceeded, and took a course up the river, thence through a ravine, and came in on the rear. Creeping softly up as he expected he espied an Indian, seated upon a

COL. WILLIAM

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stump, surrounded by sprouts, gobbling and intensely watching for some one to come from the fort in quest of the supposed turkey. Before the Indian knew of his approach Hughes had shot him, and, taking his scalp went with it to the fort where Jim was waiting for his prize. Seeing no turkey, the lad impatiently exclaimed, "Now, why didn't you let me go; I could have missed it as well as yourself." "Ah, but I didn't miss it," replied Hughes, throwing the scalp into his lap, "there's your gobbler's top knot, my boy." Jim's consternation may be imagined, as he witnessed this tangible proof of his narrow escape from the certain death that would have been his portion, but for the timely interference of this keen back-woodsman.

could go alone, and bring one back with the river, and came upon their were all absent the Indian, who was as the work of a day, and with the soon found his through seventy

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COL. WILLIAM LOWTHER

Henry, George and William, were the sons of Henry Low, and were English miners; for their superior skill and meritorious service, "ther" was added to their name by royal edict. William had a son Robert, who, with his wife, Aquilla (Rees) Lowther, emigrated to America in 1740, and came to the Hacker Creek settlement in 1767, accompanied by their son William, (the subject of this sketch), who was born in 1742. The latter married Sndua Hughes, (sister of Elias, Jesse, Thomas and Job, of Indian war fame), and settled on Simpsons creek in 1772. Many of their descendants are now living in Clarksburg and the surrounding country.

William Lowther became distinguished as a skilled and courageous frontiersman, and for his unselfish devotion to the good of the colonists. The population of these frontier settlements increased so rapidly, and to such an extent that the supply of provisions proved insufficient, and the year 1773 was called, in the early traditions of the section, "the starving year." Such were the exertions of William Lowther to mitigate the sufferings of the people, and so great was his success, that his name is transmitted to their descendants hallowed by their blessings. During the war of 1774,

and subsequently, he was the most active and efficient defender of the settlements in that vicinity against the savage foe, and many a successful expedition against them was commanded by him. He was one of the first justices of the peace in Harrison county, also the first sheriff of Harrison and Wood counties, and a delegate to the general assembly of the State. He also attained all the subordinate ranks in military service until promoted to that of colonel, and by his unassuming good qualities endeared himself to all with whom he became associated. He died October 28th, 1814.

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CAPTURE OF LEONARD PETRO AND WILLIAM WHITE

Previous to 1777, the inhabitants of Tygaris valley had escaped the ill-effects of the enmity of the savages, they having made no incursions into that country since its permanent settlement had been effected, previous to the war of 1774. Notwithstanding this, the settlers exercised the utmost vigilance, not knowing at what time they might be called upon to protect themselves. Spies (or rangers) were continually employed to watch the Indian paths beyond the settlements for evidence of their approach, and if found to notify the inhabitants.

In September, 1777, Leonard Petro and William White, being engaged in watching the path leading up the Little Kanawha, killed a deer late in the evening, and taking a part of it with them, withdrew a short distance for the purpose of eating their suppers and spending the night. Awaking about midnight, White discovered, by the light of the moon, that they were surrounded by Indians. Seeing the impossibility of escape, and preferring captivity to death, he whispered to Petro to lie still. The Indians sprang upon them, and White, raising himself as one lay hold of him, aimed a blow with his tomahawk, suddenly concluding that he could escape if he succeeded in disabling his

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assailant. Missing his aim, he affected
 to have been ignorant of the fact that
 he was encountered by Indians,
 professed great joy at meeting with
 them, and declared that he was on his
 way to their towns. They were not
 deceived by the artifice, for, although
 he assumed an air of carelessness and
 gaiety that was calculated to win their
 confidence, yet the rueful
 countenance of poor Petro convinced
 them that White's conduct was
 feigned. They were therefore both
 tied for the night, and in the
 morning, White being painted red, and
 Petro black, they were forced to
 proceed to the Indian towns. When
 approaching a village, the whoop of
 success brought several to meet them,
 and on their arrival, they found that
 every preparation was made for their
 running the gauntlet, in going through
 which ceremony both were much
 bruised. White, however, did not
 remain long in captivity. Eluding their
 vigilance, he took one of their guns
 and began his flight homeward.
 Before traveling far, he met an Indian
 on horseback, whom he shot, and,
 mounting the horse from which he
 fell, he succeeded in returning to the
 valley without further adventure.
 Petro was never afterward heard from.
 In painting his body black, they had
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The settlements generally enjoyed
perfect quiet from the first
appearance of winter until the return
of spring. In this interval of time, the
Indians were generally deterred from
continuing their marauding
expeditions, not only because of the
increased danger of discovery, caused
by the absence of foliage on the trees
and shrubbery, and the ease with
which they could be tracked in the
snow, but on account of the suffering
produced by their lying in wail and
traveling in their partially unclothed
condition, during this season of
frequent intense cold. In consequence
of this fact, the inhabitants greatly
relaxed their vigilance at this
season, and when, as upon rare
occasions, the Indians did make
inroads upon them, they would be
taken by surprise.

SETTLEMENT AT NEAL STATION

The first settler, probably, in Wood county was Captain James Neal, who had been a citizen of Greene county, in that portion of Pennsylvania which had been supposed to have belonged to the colony of Virginia. He had served in the Continental army as captain in the Revolutionary war, and, upon receiving his discharge, had been paid for his services in the Continental currency. In the spring of 1783, he came to this section as deputy surveyor for Samuel Hanway, surveyor of the county of Monongalia, which at that time included a large extent of country. He surveyed, for Alexander Parker, of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, the tomahawk entry and pre-emption right made by Robert Thornton, which Mr. Parker had purchased, of the lands on which the city of Parkersburg now stands. Captain Neal was of Irish descent; his original name was O'Neal, and for some reason, at the commencement of his services in the Continental army, he changed it to that of Neal.

In the fall of 1785, before any permanent settlements were made in the county, Capt. James Neal, with a

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Capt. Neal, of O'Neal descent, this original name was O'Neal, and for some reason, at the commencement of his services in the Continental army, he changed it to that of Neal.

In the fall of 1785, before any permanent settlements were made in the county, Capt. James Neal, with a party of men, descended the Monongahela and Ohio rivers, with the intention of proceeding to Kentucky. Arriving at the mouth of the Little Kanawha river, they ascended it for a short distance, and liking the location, encamped on the south side, about a mile from its mouth where they remained. During the following winter they erected a block-house there which was afterward known in history as Neals Station. Between that date and 1796, several block-houses were erected in this section and in Washington county, on the opposite side of the Ohio. These houses became the rendezvous of the few inhabitants who had settled here, while the war with the Indians was in progress. The lands around Neals Station were afterward named "Monroe," in honor to James Monroe, then governor of Virginia, by Hugh Phelps, son-in-law of Capt. James Neal.

Early in the winter of 1784-5 had occurred the death of Mr. Neal's first wife, who was a daughter of Col.

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John Gordon of Kentucky. By this
marriage he was the father of three
sons—Henry, John and James
Gordon—and three daughters—
Harriet (who married Col. Hugh
Phelps), Nancy (who married Dr.
Howell), and Catherine (who married
Joseph McCoy). After clearing some
land and making other improvements,
in the spring of 1786 he removed to
Greene county, and in the summer of
that year, married his second wife,
Mary Phelps, a sister of his son-in-law,
Col. Hugh Phelps. Early in the spring
of 1787, with his family and all his
children (both single and married), he
moved to the station, and they
became permanent settlers. He
afterward held the office of justice of
the peace, was commissioned captain
of the Frontier Rangers, and
appointed to many positions of honor
and trust. He died at his residence at
Neal Station, in February, 1822, in
his 85th year, and his remains were
buried in what is now known as
Parker's grave yard.

January 10, 1791, his daughter
Mary was born, who was among the
first white children born between
Cairo creek and Great Pigeon, in
this State. March 25, 1811, she
married James C. Foley, and became
the mother of a large family of
children. She died at her home on the
place which her father had given her,
two and one-half miles south of
Petersburg, September 1, 1872, in
the 81st year of her age.

in this State, at Point Pleasant, in
married Scarlet G. Foley, and became
the mother of a large family of
children. She died at her home on the
place which her father had given her,
two and one-half miles south of
Parkersburg, September 1, 1870, in
the eighteenth year of her age.

MR WOODS' TWO BOYS KILLED

In August, 1790, a party of
Indians crossed the Ohio river a short
distance below Parkersburg for the
purpose of destroying Neals Station,
and capturing its inmates. While they
were secreted in ambush a short
distance up the run from the station,
in the evening, two of Mr. Woods'
boys, who lived in a small cabin
about forty rods above the
block-house (aged twelve and fifteen
years), were returning home from a
Saturday afternoon visit to the
station. They went into the edge of
the woods, on the outside of a
cornfield, to look for the cows, and
coming upon the Indians in their

hiding-place, about dusk, they were seized and killed with the use of the tomahawk. The Indians were fearful that the screams the boys uttered before they were dispatched, would lead to their discovery, and they therefore gave up the main object of the expedition. They waited, however, until midnight, and attempted to set fire to the block-house by inclosing a brand of fire in dry poplar bark and pushing it through a porthole. It was discovered, however, and extinguished by Mrs. Neal, who gave the alarm, and pursuit was made as quickly as possible, without avail. The distracted parents of the children, as their boys did not make their appearance, dreaded the revelations which the appearance of daylight would disclose. Their worst apprehensions were realized by the discovery of the two scalped bodies in the morning.

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MR. HEWETT TAKEN PRISONER

In May, 1792, while living at Neals Station, Mr. Hewett rose early in the morning, and left the garrison, in search of a stray horse, little expecting any Indians to be near, as none had been seen in the vicinity for some time. While traversing an obscure cattle path, about a mile from the station, three Indians suddenly sprang upon him from behind trees, and being taken unawares, he was obliged to surrender. They crossed the Ohio river below Belleville, and after reaching a locality comparatively safe from pursuit, they halted to hunt and left their prisoner in camp. They had placed him upon his back, confined his wrists with stout thongs of raw-hide, to a sapling, and his legs, raised at a considerable elevation, to another small tree. Using his great strength, he released himself soon after they were gone, and, taking two small pieces of venison, without arms, started for the Big Muskingum settlement. Although pursued by the Indians, he evaded their search, and, after nine days' wandering, came to the garrison at Wolf Creek Mills, on the Big Muskingum, nearly naked and famished. He soon recovered and returned to his family. About the

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year 1797, he removed, with his family, and settled in the Big Hocking valley, near Athens, Ohio. He was afterwards elected a trustee of Athens college.

KILLING OF HENRY NEAL AND MR. TRIPLETT

In the fall of 1792, Daniel Rowell, a son-in-law of Captain James Neal, and Mr. Neal's son Henry, accompanied by Mr. Triplett, left Neals Station and ascended the Little Kanawha forty miles in a canoe, to the mouth of Burning Springs run, now in Wirt county, on a hunting expedition. The evening on which they landed they prepared a camp, and Mr. Rowell took off the lock of his gun to examine the spring, when they heard what they supposed to be the sound of turkeys on the south side of the stream. Springing into their canoe, and thinking to secure some of them for supper, Mr. Neal and Mr. Triplett stood, while Mr. Rowell sat in the stern and paddled them quickly across. As the canoe struck the shore a fire from Indians in ambush struck a blow which separated

Rowell sat in the stern and paddled them quickly across. As the canoe struck the shore a fire from Indians in ambush (from whom had emanated the cry of the turkeys) instantly killed Neal and Triplett, whose bodies fell into the river. Mr. Rowell sprang over the stern of the canoe with his gun, and swam to the northern shore amidst a storm of bullets, the Indians pursuing him in the canoe. Upon reaching the shore, to facilitate his escape, he hid his gun (as he afterward said) under a white oak log in the Burning Spring run. From thence he went through a gap for a short distance from the river to elude his pursuers, and, changing his course, recrossed the river by swimming a few miles below where they had been surprised, and found his way to the station. Immediately raising a party, he went in pursuit of the Indians, but without avail, as too long a time had intervened, and they made good their escape. The bodies of Neal and Triplett, which were found in the river unscalped, and probably undiscovered by the Indians, were buried. It is supposed that this was the same party of Indians that was killed at Wheeling, a short time after, as they went in that direction. Daniel

Rowell and his family went from here many years since, and settled in the far west. He died at the residence of his son, Dr. Neal Rowell, in Florence, Alabama, in 1851, aged 93 years. The gun hidden by Mr. Rowell was found, in a state of preservation sufficient for recognition, in 1858 - sixty-seven years afterwards - and the remains of the white oak tree were then to be seen. The muzzle of the gun had become fast in a young dogwood, about six inches above the ground. The stock had decayed, but the barrel, trigger, guard, thimble and brass cover, on which the words "Liberty or Death" were engraved, were forwarded to Dr. Neal Rowell, at Florence, Alabama, in 1859.

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at Florence, Alabama, in 1859.

THE SETTLEMENT OF BELLEVILLE

There are few if any bottom lands in the Ohio valley that excel in richness those known as Belleville. They are located in the south part of Wood county, extending about five miles along the river, commencing about sixteen miles below Parkersburg, opposite the mouth of Big Hocking river. Lee, the largest creek in the county, and draining its southern portion, divides these lands into nearly equal parts, emptying into the Ohio. When George Washington located his lands, in 1771, he had patented to him a part of this rich bottom. When his survey was made in after years, the back lines, as called for in the patent, passed through the central part, below Lee creek. When the firm of William Tilton & Co., of Philadelphia, in 1782, located and made the entries of their large tracts of land in this county, then Monongalia, amounting to over 90,000 acres, this bottom was included in their survey by a prior patent to that of Washington's.

On a survey of James Craick, the lands were patented by George III., signed by Lord Dunmore, governor of the Colony of Virginia, December 15, 1772, "and for the consideration mentioned in a proclamation of Robert Dinwiddie, late lieutenant-governor and

as Judge Wood became the agent, of the colonization and of Tilton, Gibbs & Co. tract at Belleville was place to commence. During the fall of the boat was built. direction of Mr. Wood, cattle, farming Tilton and Mr. Scotch families several men hired Pittsburgh on this 1785, and stopping at the mouth of the river, on the way, December 16th.

Captain Tilton landed and secured the lands from ice dangers from ice a hard, dry bottom the river, for the settlement. Clearing commenced, and thus obtained erected, two convenient to the usual style of loop-holes for January, 1785, completed, and moved from possession of town was then and given the its lots were settlers. Captain Philadelphia, leaving the settlement Mr. Wood, as During the first were cleared, Log houses for out-houses for

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commander-in-chief of our colony and dominion of Virginia; said proclamation bearing date February 19, 1754, for encouraging men to enlist in the service of our late royal grandfather, for the defense and security of the said colony." The original parchment patent is now in the possession of D. R. Neal, Esq., of Parkersburg, who owns a part of the land. The tract extends from opposite Hockingport to below Belleville.

In the summer of 1785, Joseph Wood, of New Jersey, afterward known as Judge Wood, of Marietta, became the agent, surveyor, etc., for the colonization and sale of the lands of Tilton, Gibbs & Co., and the large tract at Belleville was selected as the place to commence their settlement. During the fall of that year a suitable boat was built, and under the direction of Mr. Wood, freighted with cattle, farming utensils, etc. Mr. Tilton and Mr. Wood, with four Scotch families as emigrants, and several men hired by the year, left Painesburg on this boat, November 28, 1785, and stopping at Fort Harmar, at the mouth of the Big Mashingam, on the way, landed at Belleville, December 16th.

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Captain Tilton and party having landed and secured their boat against dangers from ice and floods, selected a hard, dry bottom, on the bank of the river, for making a permanent settlement. Clearing was immediately commenced, and from the timber thus obtained a block-house was erected, twenty by forty feet, convenient to the river. It was built in the usual style of block-houses, with loop-holes for muskets. Early in January, 1786, the building was completed, and the entire company moved from the boat and took possession of their future home. A town was then laid out by Mr. Wood, and given the name of Belleville, and its lots were donated to actual settlers. Captain Tilton returned to Philadelphia, in the spring of 1786, leaving the settlement in charge of Mr. Wood, as sole manager and agent. During the first year about 100 acres were cleared, ready for cultivation. Log houses for family residences, and out-houses for stock, were erected

near the block-house, the whole being enclosed by pickets about ten feet high, securely planted in the earth, forming a regular stockade, sufficient to accommodate about 200 persons. It was in the shape of an oblong square, with a river frontage of 300 feet, and running back 100 feet. A wicket gate in front, for access to the river, and a large one at either end for the admission of teams, etc., were built with secure fastenings.

The following are among the names of the Scotch families who first came with Mr. Wood, and those who came the following spring and settled at Belleville: McDonal, Greathouse, Tabor, James Penthewer, William Ingalls, Jemerson, Andrew McCash, and two single men, F. Andrews and Thomas Gilruth. In 1787 they were joined by the following persons: Joel and Joseph Dewey, from Wyoming, Pennsylvania; Stephen Sherrod and family, from the same place; Malcolm Coleman and family, from Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Peter and Andrew Anderson, from above Wheeling, Virginia. Descendants from these last named families are still living in the south part of this county and in Jackson.

In the spring of 1785, a company of trans-...

Stephen Shortall and family, from the same place; Malcolm Coleman and family, from Carlisle, Pennsylvania; Peter and Andrew Anderson, from above Wheeling, Virginia. Descendants from these last named families are still living in the south part of this county and in Jackson.

In the spring of 1785, a company of trappers and hunters from the vicinity of Wheeling, took possession of an abandoned Indian improvement of twenty acres above the mouth of Lee creek, erected a station house, and cultivated a tract in corn. It was then known as Flinn's Station. The company consisted of old Mr. Flinn, a widower, his two sons, Thomas and James, with their families; Mr. Parchment, with wife and two sons, Jacob and John; John McCessack, and John Barnett, who married a daughter of Mr. Flinn. These people, in 1787, moved down to Belleville Station, thus adding strength to the protection against the Indians, who had commenced being troublesome, stealing stock and committing other depredations.

Joseph Wood, the agent of the Ulton lands, married Miss Margaret, a daughter of James Penthewer, one of the first Belleville emigrants, in 1790. There was no one in the settlement authorized to solemnize the rites of matrimony at that time, and they

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proceeded to "Farmer's Castle," in Belpre, Ohio, where the ceremony was performed by Gen. Benjamin Tupper, a magistrate of that State. Mr. Wood resided in Marietta and vicinity, holding many positions of honor and trust until 1851, when he died, in the ninety-third year of his age.

David Lee, a hunter and trapper, some years prior to 1785, encamped upon the creek which afterward took his name, for the purpose of pursuing his calling. He continued to reside in that vicinity, and married a sister of Peter Anderson; afterward purchased and settled upon a piece of land on Tygart creek, and raised a family of five sons and three daughters. Mr. Lee was a native of Pennsylvania, and during his life here gained a wide reputation as a hunter and trapper. Many of his descendants are now residents of this section of the State.

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JAMES KELLEY KILLED AND SON CAPTURED

During the fall of 1791, James Kelley, who, with his family resided at Belleville, while at work in his fields, was shot and scalped by a party of Indians. His oldest son, Joseph, who was with him, was captured and taken off by them to a Shawnee village in Ohio, where he remained until after the treaty of peace in 1795, when he was surrendered to Commander Return J. Meigs, and returned to his widowed mother, then residing at Marietta. He had been adopted by an aged Indian warrior, named Merhalenae (who had lost five sons in battle), and received great kindness at his hands; he had, in fact, become so attached to his foster-father that he parted from him with sorrow. He finally settled in Marietta, raised a large family, and became respected and beloved.

STEPHEN SHERROD TAKEN PRISONER.

Late in the spring of 1792, Stephen Sherrod left the garrison at Belleville, and after feeding his hogs, went into the woods to cut an

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and his son James Ryan Belleville, on the purpose Descending the mouth of the Jacksonville camp upon miles up, night, after hunting. passed very good success nearly filled meat. In the creek prevent the over the flying, and been fine, light fall. Elijah Pix for a supply upon the departure very early anxiously invoking sharp cry shot pi Before collected followed through the valley

in 1831, when Dr. Jabez True, Mrs. Sherrod, who was gashed in the head in a shocking manner by the blow from the tomahawk, soon recovered under his treatment. The garrison at this time contained by five men, and it was therefore considered unsafe to pursue this party of Indians. Mr. Sherrod's captors crossed the Ohio on a raft, at the narrows above Belleville Bottom, and proceeded up the valley of the Big Hocking. Five Indians marched before the prisoner and five behind, his hands being tied with thongs of bear-skin, and in this manner he was hurried along until night, when they informed him that they had killed a woman at the garrison. With his hands still tied, they required him to lie down at night upon his back, while they laid slender saplings across him, from head to foot, upon the ends of which they laid down to sleep. As soon as their heavy breathing indicated that they were sleeping soundly, he quietly released his hands, worked himself from under the saplings, and hastened down the valley, wading the river for some distance, and finally crossing it by swimming. Arriving at the Ohio river early the next morning, he hailed the garrison, who at once went to his rescue in a boat.

MILL CREEK TRAGEDY

In the month of February, 1793, a party composed of Malcolm Coleman

for a supply of upon the third departure, Mr. very early and anxiously awaiting a bright sharp crack of shot passed. Before his collected, followed by through his the side of Ryan, who Indians and On that day journey to arrival at found his scalped and the back, he painful in party of to the Indians with the a safe remains where of this man mourn

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for a supply of flour and salt, and upon the third morning after their departure, Malcolm Coleman arose very early and prepared breakfast, anxiously awaiting their return. While invoking a blessing on their meal, the sharp crack of a rifle was heard, and a shot passed through his shoulder. Before his thoughts could be collected, the shot was quickly followed by another, which passed through his head, and he fell dead by the side of his companion, James Ryan, who made his escape from the Indians and returned to the garrison. On that day, Joshua Dewey made a journey to the camp, and upon his arrival at the spot, to his horror, found his old friend murdered, scalped and stripped of his clothing, and the camp plundered. Hastening back, he was the first to carry the painful intelligence to the garrison. A party of seven men at once proceeded to the camp in a canoe, but the Indians had taken the pirogue, loaded with the camp equipage, and effected a safe retreat, and after interring the remains of Mr. Coleman on the spot where he fell, they returned. The loss of this active and earnest Christian man was for a long time deeply mourned in the community.

In the summer of 1791, a small garrison of Virginia troops was stationed at Belleville and one at Parkersburg, under the direction of

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Col. Clendenin, to aid in the protection of settlers from Indian depredations.

MURDER OF THE FAMILY OF JOHN ARMSTRONG

Mr. Armstrong was a native of Pennsylvania, and moved with his family to Ohio in the autumn of 1793, residing in the block-house of Isaac Barker, a little above the head of Blennerhassett Island. He soon became interested, with Peter Mixner, in the small floating mill which was anchored in the current at the head of the island, near the Virginia shore. For convenience, they concluded to build for each of them a cabin on the Virginia side, a short distance above the mill, and move their families over. This was done, notwithstanding the earnest remonstrance of Mrs. Armstrong, who greatly feared the Indians. The close proximity of the garrison, on the opposite side of the river, and the block-house on the island, a short distance below, was deemed by the men to be a sufficient safeguard. After a time, for some reason, Mixner abandoned his first cabin, leaving it standing, and built another, about one hundred yards above, in the midst of the trees, where he removed his family. There

Virginia side, a short distance from the mill, and move their families over. This was done, notwithstanding the earnest remonstrance of Mrs. Armstrong, who greatly feared the Indians. The close proximity of the garrison, on the opposite side of the river, and the block-house on the island, a short distance below, was deemed by the men to be a sufficient safeguard. After a time, for some reason, Mixner abandoned his first cabin, leaving it standing, and built another, about one hundred yards above, in the midst of the trees, where he removed his family. There was very little ground yet cleared, but Mr. Armstrong fenced a portion of this, in which he placed a sow and pigs, generally keeping them confined in a pen near the house.

On the night of the 24th of April, 1794, he was awakened by the barking of this faithful watch-dog, and from the fact that a bear had, a few nights before, attempted to carry off a pig, he supposed that the old marauder had returned. Without stopping to clothe himself, he seized his rifle, unbarred the door and rushed to the aid of his dog, which was barking at some object which, owing to the darkness, he failed to recognize. Approaching nearer, he was able to discover three or four Indians, upon whom he instantly fired, rushed back to the house (giving the alarm as he ran), and barred the door. He hastened to the loft where three of

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the larger children slept (the two
smaller ones, with the infant, lodging
with himself and wife in the room
below). The Indians, with a heavy
rail, soon burst open the door and
took possession of the house, and Mr.
Armstrong, finding that it was
impossible to make any successful
resistance to protect his family,
forced his way through the loose
stingles of the roof, and jumping to
the ground unseen by the Indians,
hastened to the mill, where his two
eldest boys, who aided in tending it,
were sleeping. While the savages were
breaking open the door, Mrs.
Armstrong, with her infant in her
arms, attempted to escape by
climbing out through the low,
unfinished chimney, which was made
of logs, but, missing her footing, she
fell back, breaking her leg in the fall.
The Indians immediately tomahawked
and scalped her, with the infant and
two younger children, and finding in
the loft, Jeremiah (about eight years
old), John (aged ten), and Elizabeth
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(a girl of fourteen), they took them
away as prisoners.

Mixner, in the meantime, hearing
the report of a gun and the noise at
Armstrong's cabin, came out to
ascertain the cause, and hearing that
they were Indians, called up his wife.
Mrs. Mixner having been a prisoner
among the Wyandots, understood the
language, and listening intently to the
conversation of the savages, as they
stood in the darkness, she heard them
speculating as to where the family
who had occupied the empty house
could be. Mr. Mixner then lost no
time in hastening them into his canoe
and, paddling out into the river,
floated silently by the desolate home
of his unfortunate neighbor,
undiscovered.

Landing his family on the island,
he gave the alarm about the same
time that Armstrong did, and early in
the morning, as soon as it was light
enough to see, a party went to the
scene of the past night's adventure
and brought the remains across the
river and buried them. The noble dog,
with his lower jaw nearly severed by a
blow from a tomahawk, in his

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encounter with an Indian, was found faithfully watching over the dead. A party of twenty men from the island and Farmers Castle, went in pursuit of the Wyandots, whom they afterward ascertained were about twenty in number, and had been out on a marauding expedition in the vicinity of Clarksburg. Their trail was followed to where they raised their sunken canoes, whence they crossed the Ohio to the Big Hocking, up which they pushed their boats for several miles, when they left them and traveled by land. The party in pursuit ascertained by the prints of the children's feet in the mud that they were yet alive, and fearing to jeopardize their lives by following them they returned down the stream in the bark canoes left by the Indians.

The children were adopted into different families, upon their arrival at the Wyandot towns. Jeremiah, the youngest, whose life had been spared at the earnest solicitation of a young warrior of the party, was adopted by the celebrated chief, Crane, who was kind-hearted, and became attached to him. A portion of the time of his captivity was spent where the city of Columbus now stands, which tract was claimed by this tribe. In after years he kept a tavern in that city, and subsequently resided in Havana, Licking county, Ohio. He and John were released at the close of the war, which occurred a little over a year after their capture. Elizabeth, several years afterward, married a man named Dobson, and settled near Malden, Upper Canada.

For the purpose of aiding in safety and defense of the settlers, the House of Burgesses Virginia commissioned a number of rangers or spies, whose duty it was to discover and trace the course of the Indians in their raids, give warning to the settlers, and otherwise aid to the best of their ability. Those thus employed were Williams, who spent his last year as a citizen of this county. He was of Chester county, Pennsylvania, born 16, 1737, and when quite a child his parents moved with him to Winchester, Virginia, where he grew up to young manhood, distinguished by his fondness and appetite for hunting and hunting. At the age of 17 he was appointed by the Colonial government of Virginia a ranger, to guard the movements of the Indian frontier. In this capacity he was killed in the disastrous campaign of Braddock, in 1754. He was one of the rangers who were guarding the first convoy of powder and ammunition to Fort Mifflin after it had been captured by Forbes, of Pennsylvania, it changed its name to Fort Mifflin. At the time the western part of Pennsylvania was supposed to be the colony of Pennsylvania but the final completion of the Mason and Dixon line was not until that State.

The ten years following his death by him in hunting and trapping the Ohio and Mississippi and their tributaries. He was sent by his parents over the mountains to Winchester, in 1763, and on Buffalo creek, near what is now the town of

Columbus now stands, which tract was claimed by this tribe. In after years he kept a tavern in that city, and subsequently resided in Havana, Licking county, Ohio. He and John were released at the close of the war, which occurred a little over a year after their capture. Elizabeth, several years afterward, married a man named Dobson, and settled near Malden, Upper Canada.

ISAAC WILLIAMS, THE NOTED SPY AND HUNTER

The pioneers of this section of country were especially noted for their courage, hardihood and generous hospitality. They were ever ready to extend to the traveler a hearty welcome to their rude cabins or their hunter's camps in the forest, and share with them anything which they might contain. Toils, privations and common dangers became a bond of attachment between them.

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of the Mason and Dixon line gave it
to that State.

The ten years following were spent
by him in hunting and trapping on
the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and
their tributaries. He conducted his
parents over the mountains from
Winchester, in 1768, and settled them
on Buffalo creek, near West Liberty,
in what is now Brooke county, West
Virginia. He accompanied Ebenezer
and Jonathan Zane, in 1769, in their
expeditions around Wheeling,
Zanesville and other locations west of
the mountains, and by other hunting
and trapping excursions became
thoroughly acquainted with the
topography of the Ohio river and its
tributaries, and entered several
tomahawk rights, which he sold. In
1774, he accompanied Gov. Dunmore,
in his expedition against the
Shawnees, then at war with the
colonies, under the leadership of the
great chieftain Cornstalk and was with
him when he concluded the treaty of

peace near Chillicothe, after the battle of Point Pleasant, that year, in which the Colonial forces under Gen. Lewis were engaged.

In 1775 he met and married Mrs. Rebecca Martin, at Grave creek, whose former husband had been killed by the Indians on Big Hocking, in 1770. She was the daughter of Joseph Tomlinson, born at Wills creek, on the Potomac, Maryland, February 14, 1754. In 1771 she accompanied her two brothers, Samuel and Joseph, to Grave creek on the Ohio river, and for several years continued as their housekeeper. In 1783 her brothers, while engaged in trapping near the mouth of the Big Muskum, preempted for her 400 acres of land on the opposite side of the Ohio, in Virginia, and cleared four acres, on which they raised a crop of corn and built a cabin that year. This land afterward became very valuable, owing to the fertility of the soil.

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acres of land on the opposite side of
the Ohio, in Virginia, and cleared four
acres, on which they raised a crop of
corn and built a cabin that year. This
land afterward became very valuable,
owing to the fertility of the soil.

Williamstown now occupies a
part of it, and the balance has been
divided into farms, which are in a
high state of cultivation.

Fort Harmar having been
established at the mouth of the
Muskingum river, and garrisoned by
the United States troops, Isaac
Williams arrived with his family and
settled on this tract belonging to his
wife, March 24, 1787. Soon after
their arrival, their only child, a
daughter, was born, whom they
named Drusilla. This daughter married
John G. Henderson, who came to
Wood county in 1797, in company
with Robert Triplett.

Mr. Williams, after his arrival here,
discontinued his hunting and trapping
expeditions, excepting as a recreation,
and devoted his attention almost
entirely to the cultivation and
improvement of his farm. He
succeeded in making it one of the
most productive and attractive places
in the country, and his mansion
became far-famed as a place of
pleasant resort for his neighbors and
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His disposition is fairly illustrated
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the Ohio Company began to suffer
from the want of food, and were
reduced nearly to the verge of
starvation, and corn, from its scarcity,
became a great luxury. Mr. Williams,
by his industry, had laid by an
abundance. Speculators, eager to take
advantage of the necessities of the
distressed people, and anxious to turn
an honest penny, offered him one
dollar and a quarter per bushel for all
he had to spare, and urged upon him
to set a price, intimating that he
could demand of them nearly any
price he chose. But he turned from
them with indignation, and sent them
off without a bushel. With the
exception of a scant supply for his
own use, this corn was divided among
needy applicants, whose empty purses
were no bar to their obtaining what
they needed, and when able to pay
only fifty cents per bushel would be
accepted. The reader can, perhaps,
imagine the amount of relief caused
by this generous act, to the scores of
hungry settlers, who had been almost
starved, trying to subsist on mouldy
corn, which had been hard to obtain
at as high as two dollars per bushel.
The position which Mr. Williams held
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The position which Mr. Williams held
in the hearts of the people was one to
be envied. It is sufficient to say of his
wife that she emulated him in his
kindly acts. This modern "Isaac and
Rebecca" rivaled their scriptural
namesakes in noble deeds. Many years
before his death Mr. Williams
liberated all his slaves, six or eight in
number, and by his will left valuable
tokens of love and good feeling for
the oppressed and despised African.
He died September 25, 1820, aged
eighty-four years.

For many years during his early
manhood Mr. Williams served as a
ranger and spy, and by his skill,
accompanied by his generous and
courageous qualities, gained a national
reputation, had few equals and no
superiors. An interesting volume
might be written of his life and
adventures. In his dangerous
expeditions against the Indians he was
the frequent companion of Lewis
Wetzel, Kerr, and other noted rangers.
His remains, with those of his family,
lie buried in a beautiful spot upon the
plantation. Upon the death of Mrs.
Williams this place descended by

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desire to John A. Kinnard, who had married Mary Tomlinson, the sixth child of Joseph and Elizabeth Tomlinson, of Grave creek, a niece of Mrs. Williams. Mr. Kinnard, with his young wife, settled upon the farm in 1807. He filled, during his life, many positions of trust, and died at Parkersburg, May 2, 1850, in his seventy-third year. His wife died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Gardner, in Parkersburg, March 16, 1873, aged eighty-seven.

ONE OF BIRD LOCKHART'S INDIAN ADVENTURE

In the autumn of 1793, Mr. Williams had been sick, but recovering

execution, however, in his powerful grasp, and with it he could hit a small object at 100 yards with certain accuracy.

At the breaking out of the Indian war, he lived with his wife and four children, on what was afterward known as Blennerhassett island. Having become widely celebrated as an expert hunter, he was induced to go to Farmers Castle, below Hefre, to reside, for the purpose of supplying the settlers with game. The near proximity of the Indians never deterred him from hunting in the forest, and if an alarm was given while he was inside the garrison, of the approach of the savage, he would take his trusty rifle and sally out into the woods, to watch their motions and try and obtain a shot at one of them. He claimed that he could be of more assistance in this way, and felt freer and more at home when behind a tree, fighting Indians, than when confined behind the shelter of a block-house. He soon tired of garrison life, however, and late in the fall of 1793, started all alone upon a hunting expedition, penetrating about twenty miles into the territory occupied by the Indians as their best hunting grounds. He was gone fully three months, returning the latter part of February, with his canoe heavily and richly laden with valuable skins and spoils which he had captured in his successful encounters with the Indians, including various silver ornaments,

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DEATH OF CHARLES KELLY AND OTHERS

When information of the hostile deportment of the Indians, in 1774, reached Williamsburg, Col. Charles Lewis sent a messenger with the intelligence to Capt. John Stuart, requesting him to apprise the inhabitants on the Greenbrier river that an immediate war was anticipated, and to send out scouts to watch the warrior's path beyond the settlements. The captain thereupon used the utmost vigilance to prevent

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the re-enactment of those scenes
which had been previously witnessed
on Muddy creek and in the Big
Levels, but it could not avail to
altogether repress them. In the course
of the preceding spring, some few had
commenced making improvements on
the Kanawha river, below the Great
falls, and some land adventurers had
begun to examine and survey the
adjacent country. To these men, Capt.
Stuart dispatched an express,
informing them of the re-opening of
Indian hostilities, and advising them
to remove to a place of greater
security. When this express arrived at
the cabin of Walter Kelly, twelve
miles below the falls, Capt. John
Field, of Culpepper (who had been in
active service during the French war,
and was then engaged in making
surveys), was there with a young
Scotchman and a negro woman. Kelly
immediately sent his family to
Greenbrier, under the care of a
younger brother, but Capt. Field,
deeming the apprehension groundless,
determined to remain with Kelly, the
Scotchman and negro woman also
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Soon after the family had left the
cabin, and while yet within hearing
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Soon after the family had left the cabin, and while yet within hearing distance of it, a party of Indians approached, unperceived, and came near Kelly and Field, who were engaged in drawing leather from a tan-trough in the yard. The first intimation of their approach was the discharge of several guns, when Kelly fell. Field then ran briskly toward the house in quest of his gun, but recollecting that it was unloaded, sprang into a cornfield, which screened him from the observation of the Indians, who, supposing that he had taken shelter in the house, rushed into it. Here they found the Scotchman and negro woman, the latter of whom they killed; and, making prisoner of the young man, returned and scalped Kelly.

When Kelly's family reached the Greenbrier settlement, they reported having heard the firing of guns in the direction of their home, and expressed their apprehension of the danger to those they left behind. Capt. Stuart thereupon assembled a number of volunteers and started to their relief. They had not gone far before they met Capt. Field, whose

clothes were almost entirely torn off from him, and who was nearly exhausted from hunger and fatigue, caused by his flight of eighty miles through the thick underbrush. Considering it useless to proceed farther, the party returned.

A few weeks afterward, another band of Indians came to the settlement on Muddy creek, and meeting a daughter of Walter Kelly, who was out walking with her uncle, near the house (which had been converted into a temporary fort), they fired upon them when the latter was killed, and the young lady, being overtaken in her flight, was carried off into captivity.

BATTLE NEAR POINT PLEASANT,
AND A FURTHER ACCOUNT OF THE

was overtaken in her flight, was carried off into captivity.

BATTLE NEAR POINT PLEASANT, AND ATTACK ON FORT DONNELLY

The Shawnees had determined to avenge the death of their Sachem Cornstalk, and in the spring of 1778, a small band of them made their appearance near the fort at Point Pleasant, when Lieut. Moore was dispatched, with a few men, to drive them off. The Indians commenced retreating, and the lieutenant, fearing they would escape, ordered a quick pursuit. He did not proceed far before he fell into an ambuscade; he and three of his men were killed at the first fire, and the rest of the party saved themselves by a rapid flight to the fort.

In the following May, an attempt was made to repeat this operation, and a party of Indians again came within view of the fort, but Capt. McKee (who was at that time in command) forbore to detach any of his men to go in pursuit of them. Disappointed in their expectations, the Indians suddenly arose from their covert and presented an unbroken line, extending in front of the fort from the Kanawha to the Ohio river. The garrison at this time was small, owing to the absence of Capt. Arbuckle's company; the Indians demanded a surrender, which proposition Capt. McKee asked until morning to consider, and the night was spent in bringing a supply of water from the river and making other preparations for defence. In the

disastrous conflict to the people Capt. McKee undertake the passing by the Donnelly's (1) and give the Phillip (1) themselves as to save the were immediately disguised as "squaw," a perilous journey with great detour, the Meadow Donnellys on, at suns

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 remained attached to the whites,
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 acted as interpreter at the fort. The
 Indians immediately commenced the
 attack, and for a week kept the
 garrison closely besieged, when, failing
 to accomplish their object, they
 collected all the cattle they could
 find, and proceeded up the Kanawha,
 toward the Greenbrier settlement.

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Appreciating the danger and the
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 to the people of that community,
 Capt. McKee called for volunteers to
 undertake the hazardous enterprise of
 passing by the Indians to Col. Andrew
 Donnelly's (then the frontier house)
 and give the alarm. John Pryor and
 Phillip Hammond expressed
 themselves as willing to risk their lives
 to save the people of Greenbrier, and
 were immediately painted and
 disguised as Indians by the "grenadier
 squaw," and started upon their
 perilous journey. Traveling night and
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Donnellys fort, twenty miles farther
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The intelligence was immediately
spread through the neighborhood, a
messenger was sent to Capt. John
Stuart, water and supplies were
carried into the fort, and every
possible arrangement made for the
reception of the enemy. Early the
next morning John Prichet (a servant
to Col. Donnelly) went into the yard
for some firewood, and was instantly
killed by a rifle shot. Two Indians
then ran into the yard and tried to
force open the kitchen door, but it
was secured by Hammond and
Pointer, who were on guard. The
savages then commenced cutting the
door in pieces with their tomahawks,
and Hammond, finding they would
soon succeed, threw it suddenly open,
killed one Indian on the threshold,
and discharged his musket, heavily
loaded with swan shot, into the dense
crowd of savages congregated there,
who fell back in dismay, and the door
was again secured. The men in the

house (who were asleep at the opening of the attack) were by this time aroused, and commenced a rapid fire from the openings in the second story, when the enemy retired to a safe distance. A number of Indians, however, had succeeded in getting under the floor and attempted to gain admittance by raising up the puncheons, of which it was made; in this they were quickly aided by the whites, who tore up a part of the floor and succeeded in killing several of the savages before they could escape.

When the intelligence of the approach of the savages reached Capt. Stuart, Col. Samuel Lewis was with him, and they both exerted themselves to collect the inhabitants into the fort where Lewisburg now stands. Having succeeded in this, two scouts were sent to Donnelly's to ascertain what was transpiring, who soon returned and gave information of the Indian attack there. Volunteers were then called for, and in a brief space of time, a company of sixty-six brave men were marching by the most direct route to the relief of the Donnelly fort, under the leadership of Col. Lewis and Capt. Stuart. By approaching the fort at the rear, they escaped an ambuscade that had been laid by the savages in anticipation of

ascertain what had happened, and gave information soon returned and gave information of the Indian attack there. Volunteers were then called for, and in a brief space of time, a company of sixty-six brave men were marching by the most direct route to the relief of the Donnelly fort, under the leadership of Col. Lewis and Capt. Stuart. By approaching the fort at the rear, they escaped an ambushade that had been laid by the savages in anticipation of the arrival of reinforcements, and, creeping through a field of rye, they made a rush for the house, amid a storm of bullets from the enemy (who discovered them when they broke cover), and were soon safely within the walls. The Indians then renewed the attack, continuing until dark, when they retreated, dragging off their slain.

In this encounter, only four of the whites were killed, while it was known that the enemy lost over thirty. The garrison numbered twenty-one, before the reinforcements came, and these men had sustained the brunt of the battle against an attacking party of over two hundred. This fairly illustrates the want of good generalship on the part of the Indians, and the excellent judgment and bravery of the pioneers. Nearly all the successful attacks of the Indians were made upon isolated and defenceless families, or upon small settlements, when they were enabled

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to take them by surprise. On the morning after the Indians departed, Capt. Hamilton went in pursuit of them with seventy men, but, following two days without apparently gaining upon them, the chase was abandoned.

OTHER DEPREDACTIONS IN THE VALLEY

After this attack on Donnellys fort, the Indians attempted no more mischief in the Greenbrier country for about two years. The fort at Point Pleasant guarded the principal pass to the settlements on the Kanawha, in the levels and on Greenbrier river, but in the spring of 1780, when preparations were being made for an attack against the whole border country, a party of savages was dispatched to this section for the purpose of rapine and murder, and to ascertain the facilities of the inhabitants to resist invasion.

This party consisted of twenty-two warriors, and their first act of atrocity was at the house of Lawrence Drinnan, a few miles above the Little

transpiring, who gave information there. Volunteers and in a brief party of sixty-six ing by the most relief of the leadership of St. Stuart. By the rear, they that had been anticipation of cements, and, l of rye, they ouse, amid a the enemy when they soon safely ndians then inuing until ed, dragging

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purpose of rapine and murder, and to ascertain the facilities of the inhabitants to resist invasion.

This party consisted of twenty-two warriors, and their first act of atrocity was at the house of Lawrence Drinnan, a few miles above the Little Levels, where Henry Baker was killed near the river. Mr. Drinnan dispatched a servant to spread the alarm, who collected twenty men, two of whom were killed, as they were proceeding toward Drinnan's, by the savages, who lay in ambush awaiting them. The Indians then proceeded to the house of Hugh Melver, whom they killed, and made his wife prisoner. Meeting John Prior with his wife and child, the former was killed and the latter two taken prisoners, and probably murdered, as they were never afterward heard from. The other victims in the neighborhood were a man named Monday and his wife, who were slain, and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Thomas Drinnan and a child, who were taken prisoners. These were the last outrages committed by the Indians in the Greenbrier settlements.

ENLEN'S LEAP

In the spring of 1788, Benjamin Enlen, who was at that time insane, was out hunting in the woods below

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Point Pleasant, when he was discovered and pursued by an Indian. Throwing away his elegant silver-mounted rifle, in order to gain time by arresting the attention of the Indian (who stopped to pick it up), he used his utmost exertions in running; and unexpectedly came to a precipice, over which he fell headforemost through a buckeye tree, striking a branch which turned him over, and he landed upon his feet unhurt, although the fall was fifty-three feet. Blindly rushing in his excitement toward the river he leaped another precipice twelve feet in height, and escaped. The scene of this occurrence is within sight of the town of Point Pleasant, and of steamers passing along the Ohio River.

this occurrence is within sight of the town of Point Pleasant, and of steamers passing along the Ohio river.

death of Col. Crawford went so far to make his own life was in danger.

MURDER OF RHODA VAN BEBBER

A few years after the close of the Revolution, a daughter of Capt. John Van Bebber, named Rhoda, aged seventeen, and Joseph Van Bebber, a lad of thirteen, a brother of Capt. Jesse and John Van Bebber, had crossed over in a canoe one morning, to the west side of the Ohio, opposite Point Pleasant, on an errand to Rhoda's father, then living temporarily in a house on that side of the stream, when a party of Indians suddenly made their appearance. Dave, a black man belonging to Capt. Van Bebber, gave the alarm and rushed into the house. The Indians attacked the house, but were driven off by Dave and Capt. Van Bebber, with the loss of two or three of their number. Joseph and Rhoda, in their terror, hastened to the canoe, whither the Indians pursued them, killed and scalped the young lady, and took Joseph a prisoner to Detroit. Rhoda's scalp the Indians divided into two, and sold them to the Indian traders at Detroit for thirty dollars each; the object in purchasing them was to encourage the savages in their incursions, so as to prevent a settlement of the country by the whites, and thus monopolize the Indian trade. Joseph afterward stated

THE VAN BEBBER

In the autumn, Mathias Van Bebber and Jacob, aged about a short distance, with a rifle across his back, were waylaid by Indians fired two One of the balls eye, and render blind; he sprang into a gully, hearing the report and three of pursuit. Mathias sprang up and remaining Indian Mathias brought aim, the Indian former took escaped into after a close caught the active, would fort had his large. The the Ohio was a sprightly his age, and with him, the first night they took him sang to him, head to come at their to

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that the barrel into which the scalps
 were thrown was filled with these
 horrid trophies. He remained with
 the Indians two years, during which
 he learned their language and acted
 as interpreter between them and the
 traders. He at length made his
 escape, and lived with a trader until
 after Wayne's victory, when he
 returned home. While at Detroit, he
 became acquainted with the
 notorious Simon Girty, then a
 British pensioner for services in the
 Revolution. He said Girty was an
 affable man, but extremely
 intemperate. Girty denied to him
 that he was the instigator of the
 death of Col. Crawford; but that he
 went so far to save him that his
 own life was in danger.

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In the autumn of 1788 or '89,
Mathias Van Bebber, aged eighteen,
and Jacob, aged twelve years, were
out a short distance from Point
Pleasant, with a horse, when they
were waylaid by four Indians. Jacob
was leading the horse and Mathias
was a short distance ahead with a
rifle across his shoulders, when the
Indians fired two guns at Mathias.
One of the balls struck him over the
eye, and rendered him momentarily
blind; he sprang to one side and fell
into a gully. The boy, Jacob, on
hearing the report of the guns, fled,
and three of the Indians went in
pursuit. Mathias, in the meantime,
sprang up and took to a tree, the
remaining Indian, doing the same.
Mathias brought up his gun to an
aim, the Indian dodged, and the
former took the opportunity and
escaped into the fort. The Indians,
after a close chase of half a mile,
caught the lad, who, being very
active, would have escaped into the
fort had his moccasins not been too
large. The Indians retreated across
the Ohio with their prisoner, who
was a sprightly little fellow, small of
his age, and the Indians, pleased
with him, treated him kindly. On
the first night of their encampment
they took him on their knees and
sang to him, and he turned away his
head to conceal his tears. On arriving
at their town, while running the

gauntlet between the children of the place, one Indian boy, much larger than himself, threw a bone which struck him on the head. Enraged by the pain, Jacob drew back and running with all his force butted him over, much to the amusement of the Indian warriors. He was adopted into an Indian family where he was used with kindness. on one occasion his Indian father whipped him, though slightly, which affected his Indian mother and sister to tears. After remaining with the Indians about a year, he escaped, and for five days traveled through the wilderness to his home. When he had arrived at maturity, he was remarkable for his fleetness. None of the Indians who visited Point Pleasant could ever equal him in that respect.

fleetness. None of the Indians who visited Point Pleasant could ever equal him in that respect.

LAST INDIAN INCURSION

The last incursion made by the Indians into this section was in May, 1791, when a party of eighteen whites were attacked by about thirty Indians at a point on the Ohio river about one mile north of the fort at Point Pleasant. The whites were defeated. Michael See and Robert Sinclair were killed and Thomas Northrop Hampton and a black boy belonging to See were borne off prisoners. William See, son of Michael See, was born in the fort at Point Pleasant the same evening that his father was killed. The black boy never returned; he became an Indian chief and took part with the friendly Indians against the British during the war of 1812-14. William went as a volunteer with Mason County Riflemen to the Northwest in 1813, and there met the colored chief, with whom he became acquainted, and was informed by him that the Indian who shot his father at Point Pleasant twenty-two years before was still living, and then in the immediate vicinity, but very old and totally blind. See desired to be shown him, but the chief, fearing that he would avenge the death of his father, refused to reveal his whereabouts.

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About the year 1792 there resided within the fort at Point Pleasant, a family of the name of Tyler, in which were two young ladies. It was customary at that time to put bells upon the cows and permit them to graze without the stockade, into which, however, they were driven at night. One evening in the autumn of the year, these ladies left the fort for the purpose of driving in the cows, and hearing the bells on the hill in the rear of the fort, they proceeded in the direction from which the sound came until they reached the summit of the hill, when several Indians, who had taken the bells from the cows and were using them as a decoy, rushed upon the ladies and made them prisoners; and, having cut the skirts from their dresses that they might travel the more rapidly, at once began the long and tedious journey to Detroit, where shortly after their arrival, the younger died of a broken heart. The elder remained a prisoner until after Wayne's treaty in 1795, when she was married to a French trader in Canada, after which she returned to Point Pleasant and spent six months with her friends, then bidding all a final adieu, she departed to again join her husband, who awaited her arrival at Detroit, from which place they removed to Montreal, where she died at an advanced age.

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THOMAS TEAYS

Among the earliest settlers who
entered land in the valley was
Thomas Teays, who located no less
than twenty-seven thousand acres, in
which tract nearly the entire region
now known as Teays valley was
embraced. This valley was named
from its first owner, and is the best
agricultural land in Putnam county.
While Mr. Teays and his party were
surveying his lands, one evening after
they had gone into camp and were
preparing supper, they were much
alarmed at beholding several savages
approaching the camp. The Indians,
probably finding the party stronger
than they expected, halted within

speaking distance, while one of them advanced to the camp and asked for salt. Mr. Teays gave him the vessel containing their entire supply, and requested him to take half. It established, the Indian having done as returned thanks, and after discharging with his comrades, all moved off. The next year, while Mr. Teays was completing his survey, near the mouth of Coal river, he was captured by a loving hand of Indians and carried a prisoner to the Shawnee town, about the time that the prisoners from the command of the ill-fated Col. Crawford were being brought in, and he, with them, was condemned to be burned at the stake. While the fires were being kindled, Mr. Teays observed an Indian sitting a small way off, apparently engaged in deep meditation, but the awful moment was come. The most fearful and heart-rending scene upon which the sun had ever shone was now to be enacted. Those familiar with the heart sickening story of the burning of Col. Crawford can imagine the awful scene. The prisoners, one after another, were bound to the stakes; and it now came the turn of Mr. Teays. But as he was being led forward by his executioners, the Indian above referred to rushed between them, and, exclaiming, "This man Indian's friend! he gave Indian salt," severed the bonds and led the prisoner away. Thus, by giving the Indian a little salt a year before, was he saved from the awful fate of being burned at the stake. He was adopted into the family of the Indian, with whom he spent more than three years. He then made his escape, and returned by way of the Kanawha valley to his home in Campbell county, Virginia, where he lived to a ripe old age, but never returned to the valley. His lands descended to his heirs, many of the descendants of whom yet reside within the valley and upon the lands included within "Teays grant."

erected by government authority, and supplied with arms and ammunition from the public arsenal. It was first garrisoned by regular soldiers, in 1777, as were other State forts on the Ohio river; its sole defense was left to the heroism and bravery of those who might seek shelter within its walls. The settlement around it was at this time flourishing, and its growth had been exceedingly rapid since the first coming of the Zanes and others, in 1769; a lively little village of about thirty houses had sprung up, while but a few years prior the foot of civilized man had never trod; a few domestic flocks and herds were quietly feeding upon the hills that had so recently been occupied by wild beasts of the forest. But peace of the little community soon to be broken.

On the night of the 1st of September, 1777, Capt. Ogden (who had for some time been engaged with a party of twelve men watching the paths leading to settlement) came into Wheeling reported that no enemy was near the course of the night, however Indian army, consisting of warriors, approached the village fearing, from seeing the lights of the fort, that the inmates would prepare for an attack, they themselves in ambush. Two were formed, some distance extending from the river across point to the creek, with a canon to afford concealment. Six were then stationed near a leading through the field to the about midway between the lines, in a situation exposing observation, for the purpose of decoying within the lines any which might come out to them.

Early in the morning, the going to a field for horses, the first line, and came near Indians posted in the darkness perceiving the men they endeavored to escape by a single shot brought one down, and the others were all except that he was the only one who escaped.

and it now came the turn of Mr. Teays. But as he was being led forward by his executioners, the Indian above referred to rushed between them, and, exclaiming, "This man Indian's friend! he gave Indian salt," severed the bonds and led the prisoner away. Thus, by giving the Indian a little salt a year before, was he saved from the awful fate of being burned at the stake. He was adopted into the family of the Indian, with whom he spent more than three years. He then made his escape, and returned by way of the Kanawha valley to his home in Campbell county, Virginia, where he lived to a ripe old age, but never returned to the valley. His lands descended to his heirs, many of the descendants of whom yet reside within the valley and upon the lands included within "Teays grant."

NORTHWESTERN VIRGINIA: ATTACK ON FORT WHEELING

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 1769; a lively little village of about
 thirty houses had sprung up, where
 but a few years prior the foot of
 civilized man had never trod; and
 now domestic flocks and herds were
 quietly feeding upon the hills that
 had so recently been occupied by
 wild beasts of the forest. But the
 peace of the little community was
 soon to be broken.

On the night of the 1st of
 September, 1777, Capt. Ogal (who
 had for some time been engaged,
 with a party of twelve men in
 watching the paths leading to the
 settlement) came into Wheeling and
 reported that no enemy was near. In
 the course of the night, however, an
 Indian army, consisting of 389
 warriors, approached the village, and
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prepared for an attack, placed
themselves in ambush. Two lines
were formed, some distance apart,
extending from the river across the
point to the creek, with a corn field
to afford concealment. Six Indians
were then stationed near a road
leading through the field to the fort,
about midway between these two
lines, in a situation exposed to
observation, for the purpose of
decoying within the lines any force
which might come out to attack
them.

Early in the morning, two men,
going to a field for horses, passed
the first line, and came near to the
Indians posted in the center;
suddenly perceiving the six savages,
they endeavored to escape by flight.
A single shot brought one of them
down, and the other was allowed to
escape, that he might give the alarm.
Learning there were but six of the
enemy, Capt. Mason, at the head of

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their troubles. A new deer-skin or
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moccasins, made a rustic and pretty
costume, and, enveloping a
rosy-cheeked, bright-eyed maiden,
they presented a handsome picture.
At least, so thought the young
hunter, in his picturesque suit of
the same material, whom the young
lady no doubt admired more than if
he were attired in the richest
broadcloth.

THE FIRST "GRIST MILL"

Owing to the constant danger of
Indian attacks in the interior, where
excellent water-power might have been
obtained for the running of the
machinery of a grist-mill, no one
cared to take the risk of
constructing one, for a number of
years after the first settlements were
made, and each family was obliged

to pulverize their own grain by the best means at hand. Before the corn had become hardened, it was a common custom to take it while on the cob and scrape it on a grater made of a piece of tin, punched full of holes, using the rough side. After the grain had become too hard to prepare in this way, the wheat or corn was either ground in a handmill, by those who were fortunate enough to have one, or pounded with the use of mortar and pestle. The sweep was sometimes used for pounding grain into meal. This was a pole of some springy, elastic wood, thirty feet long or more; the butt end was placed under the side of the house or a large stump. This pole was supported by two forks, placed about one-third of its length from the butt end, so as to elevate the small end about fifteen feet from the ground; to this was attached, by a large mortise, a piece of a sapling, about five or six inches in diameter, and eight or ten feet long. The lower end of this was shaped so as to answer for a pestle. A wooden pin was put through it at a proper height, so that two persons could work at the sweep at once. The mortar for holding the grain was

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inches in diameter, and eight or ten
feet long. The lower end of this was
shaped so as to answer for a pestle.
A wooden pin was put through it at
a proper height, so that two persons
could work at the sweep at once.
The mortar for holding the grain was
made of a large block of wood,
about three feet long, with an
excavation burned in one end, wide
at the top and narrow at the
bottom, so that the action of the
pestle on the bottom threw the corn
up the sides toward the top, from
whence it continually fell into the
center. After being pounded as fine
as possible, the meal would be sifted
with a hand-sieve, generally made of
deer skins, in the form of par
parchment, stretched over a hoop,
and perforated with a hot wire. The
first water-mills were of the kind
known as tub-mills, the machinery of
which was nearly all alike, very
simple and inexpensive. It consisted
of an upright shaft, to the lower end
of which a horizontal wheel, of four
or five feet in diameter, was
attached; the upper end passed
through the bedstone and carried the
runner. No bolting cloths were used,
but the sifters, above described,
finished the flour in a manner that,
in those days, was highly
satisfactory. The recent patent roller

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In the summer of 1791, a novel
mill was constructed by Griffin
Green and Capt. Jonathan Devoll, of
Farmers Castle (below Belpre, on the
Ohio river), which cost fifty-one
pounds eight shillings, and was of
the following description: Two boats
were built, one five and the other
ten feet wide, and both forty-five
feet long. The larger was made of
plank, similar to to a flatboat, and
the other of the trunk of a large
ycamore tree. They were placed
about twelve feet apart, parallel to
each other, and between them was
constructed a paddle-wheel, very
similar to the stern wheels used on
many river boats, which rested in
the water to the depth of the
paddles. The boats were connected
by platforms built of planks on each
side of the wheel. On each boat
rested an end of the water-wheel
shaft, and on the larger was erected
a frame building sufficiently large to
contain the gearing and one run of
quell stone, and containing storage
for a small amount of grain and
meal. The establishment was held to
its place by a cable chain fastened
in a firm anchor. The wheel could
thus be run by action of the
current, and a place was selected

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for a small amount of grain and
meal. The establishment was held to
its place by a cable chain fastened
to a firm anchor. The wheel could
thus be run by action of the
current, and a place was selected
where the position was safe from
Indian attack, and the current was
sufficiently strong. By a simple
contrivance, the mill could be started
and stopped, and would grind from
two to four bushels per hour,
according to the strength of the
current. When any wheat was
obtained to be ground, it went
through a bolting reel in the garrison,
turned by hand. This river mill was
visited by all the settlers on both
sides of the Ohio and its tributaries,
in canoes, for a distance of twenty
miles or more, and it was so much
of an improvement over the old
style, that the quality of the work
and size of the toll-dish was never
an object of criticism. Happy
miller!

the coat pocket this for the teacher. These combined, made a lively school. It is doubtful if the rising generation fully appreciate the advantages they now have (in the good, commodious school-houses, comfortably furnished, and in the well-trained teachers) over their fathers and grandfathers, who had to travel through sleet and snow, sometimes three or four miles, to receive the first rudiments of an education.

PRICES CURRENT IN 1778-79

The following is a partial price-list of provisions, stock, etc., in western Virginia in 1778: Cattle, ten pounds, or thirty-three and one-third dollars

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then per head; horses, twenty-five pounds,
 or eighty-three dollars and twenty
 five cents; flour, fifty shillings per
 barrel, equal to sixteen dollars, or
 six pence per pound; a common
 woodman's ax, thirty shillings, or
 five dollars; a pack-saddle, about the
 same; salt, six pounds, or twenty
 dollars per bushel. The latter article
 was then brought from the sea-coast,
 and imported, none of any
 consequence being made in the
 country. Provisions at this time were
 exceedingly scarce and dear, and
 these prices are not estimated in a
 depreciated currency, but in silver
 dollars or their equivalent. In these
 days, when salt works are so
 numerous in this State, and the
 finest quality is so cheap, it is
 difficult to believe that any such
 price was paid here, but it is,
 nevertheless, a fact. In January, 1779,
 provisions became very scarce and
 dear, west of the mountains. The
 employing of many men in the
 public service required a large
 supply, and the main portion of it
 was brought from the eastern side of
 the mountains on pack-horses.
 During the winter months, when the
 roads were at the worst, and this
 service was attended with great
 danger from Indian attacks, carriers
 demanded and received twenty
 pounds per hundred weight for the
 transport of flour and other
 provisions from Cumberland to
 Pittsburg, and then there was added
 additional cost of transportation
 down the river. At Pittsburg, bacon
 was seven and six pence a pound, or
 one dollar in Pennsylvania money.
 The price of salt rose to sixteen
 pounds per bushel; the same being
 eight dollars per bushel near the
 sea-coast, in Maryland. Wheat rose to
 six dollars per bushel, and in a letter
 of Col. Morgan to Benjamin
 Kirkendall, a miller, on Peters creek,
 he says he was forwarded three
 thousand dollars to purchase five
 hundred bushels at that rate; this
 was doubtless the actual price in
 paper money, as it was estimated at
 from forty to forty-five shillings,
 "Pennsylvania currency."